

BAY AREA REPORTER

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TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019

Boycott of Western Union Launched Over Lawsuit

by Keith Clark

While the employment discrimination lawsuit against the powerful communications giant, Western Union, entered the last legs in its legal course, lesbian/gay rights activists in San Francisco and around the country are expressing their anger with the firm in the form of protests and an economic "consumer action" as attorneys for both sides concluded their

arguments in the case in San Francisco Superior Court March 20.

The case has been joined with a similar employment discrimination suit against another communications giant, AT&T which is also challenging the constitutionality of San Francisco's landmark gay rights law.

The San Francisco Bay Area chapter of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation called for a mail and telephone campaign by lesbians and gays in the community against Western Union protesting the company's legal attack on the city's civil rights ordinance as its defense in the lawsuit.

At the national level

GLAAD in New York has also alerted the community to the Western Union attack on the San Francisco law through its radio program and nationally syndicated column.

In addition, the Washington-DC based Human Rights Campaign Fund, which has successfully promoted its "Speak Out" mailgram campaign

operated through Western Union, has canceled its contract with the telegraph and communications firm because of the lawsuit.

That contract, with some 30,000 people signed up through HRCF so far, represents an estimated loss of \$350,000 for Western Union,

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Members of Metropolitan Community Church's Youth Rap.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Rap Group Teens Speak Out

The Future of Gay Youth

by Kevin M. Davis

How do gay youth today see their futures? Is the coming out process different from the efforts of the Stonewall generation? Do they appreciate the struggle that went into attaining an environment where a young gay man can feel safe about who he is?

At the Gay Youth Rap Group, Friday nights at the Metropolitan Community Church, San Francisco, the talk is on a variety of subjects, from school to family to the pressures of newfound responsibilities and priorities.

A recent interview with six rap group members found them voicing a strong commitment to helping others like themselves to make the transition from closeted life with suburban families to emotionally supportive gay life in the city. Some had a message or opinion on a perceived defect in gay city residents, others expressed a note of gratitude for help they've gotten along the way.

Airing their views are: Peter Milinavvo, 19, of Fremont; Erich V., a 17-year-old; long

haired and fashionable Eric Wohlgenuth, 19, a native San Franciscan; Richard Sarao, 20, African-American City College student; Malcolm McQuirter; and 19-year-old J-Me Cruise, who wears a big, flouncy garden hat and blue finger-nail polish.

On Coming Out

Peter: "I want to have the kind of relationship with my family where I can bring home my lover and be welcomed. I realize that I've had the past

(Continued on page 14)

AZT Maker Planning Ad Blitz

by Dennis Conkin

AZT manufacturer Burroughs-Wellcome confirmed to the *Bay Area Reporter* this week that the firm is conducting market research in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The firm declined to discuss the specifics of the research but the *Bay Area Reporter* has learned that it concerns advertisements targeted to specific groups either suffering from — or at risk — for HIV infection or AIDS.

However, a spokesperson for Horizon's Unlimited, a local community-based organization that provided space for the research, said that the company was testing an ad campaign promoting testing for HIV infection and testing reactions to the way the information was portrayed.

One person who participated in a focus group said that he was shown a series of ads in which testing was advocated and that he figured out that

Burroughs-Wellcome was behind the research when he was asked to react to an ad that said "Sponsored by Your Local HIV Support Group" and another that said "Sponsored by Burroughs-Wellcome."

The focus group participant, who was paid a nominal fee, said that he asked the group conducting the research who was sponsoring it, but was told that the sponsor didn't want their name revealed.

Steve Ketterer of Johnston, Zabor and Associates, a Triangle Park, N.C., marketing research firm that conducted the research refused to confirm or deny whether Burroughs-Wellcome was his client.

"I'm not confirming or denying. It's proprietary information," he said. However, when the *Bay Area Reporter* called Johnston, Zabor and Associates and asked to speak to the

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Richard Chamberlain

Richard Chamberlain Comes Out

by Rex Wockner

Richard Chamberlain, star of "The Thornbirds" and "Dr. Kildare," has come out of the closet in an interview with *Nous Deux*, a French women's magazine, which quoted him as saying: "I've had enough pretending. I'm officially moving in with my friend, Martin Rabbatt. We have been lovers for 12 years now and are building a house on the beach [in Hawaii] which will be our home. And too bad for people who are upset by it."

Chamberlain also said he

(Continued on page 16)

"I've had enough pretending."

California Military Reserve Targeted for Abolition

Sen. Milton Marks (D-San Francisco/Marin) has introduced legislation abolishing the California Military Reserve following the disclosure of abuses in the recruitment and training of the state's amateur armed force, including testimony at fiscal hearings held last year by the Assembly Ways and Means Subcommittee on State Administration.

The Military Reserve is an auxiliary militia comprised of unpaid volunteers who can be drawn upon if the California National Guard is called into service outside the state. In such cases, the Reserve would perform the National Guard's function of maintaining domestic order.

Recently there have been additional charges that members

of the Military Reserve are recruited through "Soldier of Fortune" type publications, which draw on professional mercenaries, survivalists and members of extremist organizations.

There have been reports that in training programs conducted by Reserve officers, volunteer officers were often motivated with bigoted remarks, including calls for violence against lesbians, gay men and progressives. Domestic spying operations conducted by members of the Reserve have also been brought to light.

"The California Military Reserve is a paramilitary force that could go out of control," Marks said. ▼

Compassionate Leave Bill Passed by Unanimous Vote

by Dennis Conkin

Supervisor Richard Hongisto's compassionate leave legislation that benefits city employees suffering from AIDS, cancer and other catastrophic illness passed its first reading by a unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors on March 19.

Hongisto's legislation amends the charter following the approval of city Propositions H and I by voters last November. The amendments allow 28,000 city employees to transfer unused sick leave and vacation credits to catastrophically ill employees.

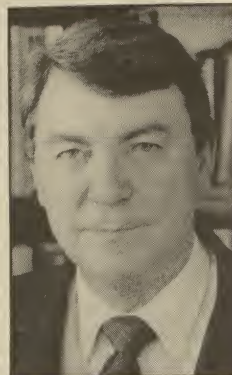
Hundreds of city workers are expected to benefit from the law, which enables them to receive income and maintain their standard of living after they have exhausted their own benefits and would be ineligible for paychecks.

The amount of transferred benefits that any one employee is allowed to receive is 3,120.

To be eligible for the program, workers must be certified catastrophically ill, have been absent from work for 30 days due to illness and have no sick or vacation time to draw on.

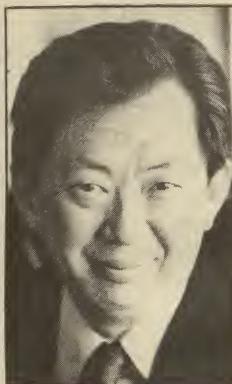
Transferring employees must keep a minimum balance of 64 hours of sick leave, are only able to transfer their benefits in 8-hour units, and can only transfer 80 hours of benefits per month — to a total of 480 hours — or three months of benefits per year.

Hongisto's legislation passed



Richard Hongisto

with an amendment by Supervisor Tom Hsieh, who had



Tom Hsieh

previously opposed the measure and had written ballot arguments against it.

Hsieh's amendment requires the program to be reviewed after six months.

According to T.J. Anthony, a Hongisto aide, Hsieh's amendment was a friendly amendment.

Hsieh's amendment requires the program to be reviewed in six months.

"Supervisor Hongisto views Supervisor Hsieh's amendment as helpful and constructive. We are very pleased with his support of the legislation, even though he had philosophical problems with it. We are grateful for his response to the needs of people with catastrophic illness," Anthony said.

The measure, according to Anthony, is estimated by the city's retirement system to cost \$12 million during the first year of implementation and \$14 the second year.

Hongisto's legislation had the support of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Shanti, ACT UP, the San Francisco Police Officer's Association and other groups.

The Board of Supervisors is expected to vote final approval of the legislation on March 26. ▼

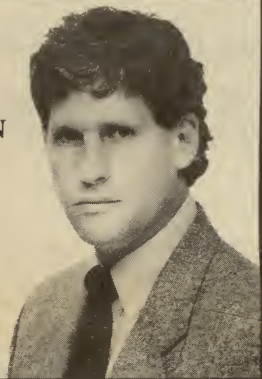
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Richard A. Barrera, D.D.S.
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Mandela Says Gays Included In South African Agenda

by Rex Wockner

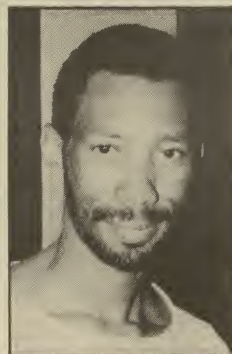
African National Congress Deputy President and spiritual leader Nelson Mandela answered a question from a gay journalist March 13 in Stockholm during a joint news conference with Swedish Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson.

Journalist Bill Shiller, who works with Radio Sweden shortwave and with the gay newspaper, *Reporter*, asked:

"I understand that in South Africa a number of lesbian and gay organizations have also been fighting for your release. What is the role of these groups? What rights will they have in a new South Africa under your leadership and the leadership of the ANC? Will they be free or continue to be persecuted?"

Mandela responded: "We have already indicated that we are presently addressing the issues of uniting all anti-apartheid forces we have in this regard, drawing no distinctions whatsoever concerning anti-apartheid organizations. Whether we are going to succeed in bringing about that united front depends on the response of the organizations involved. But all I can assure you is that we will leave no stone unturned in our effort to unite the oppressed people of our country."

It was the second time



Simon Nkoli

Mandela had been asked about gay and lesbian issues. In late February, a gay South African activist Alfred Siphwe Machel confronted Mandela during a visit to the gay-community-based Township AIDS Project in Soweto.

Machel asked Mandela if he was aware that gay and lesbian campaigners had aggressively worked for his release from prison.

"You have to understand that I have been imprisoned for a long time," Mandela said. "I have heard about many organizations and their support. I will personally see to it that the rights of all people shall be discussed."

Gay rights campaigner Simon Nkoli, speaking from Johannesburg by telephone, called Mandela's Stockholm remarks "absolutely great, great news....We can quote what he said about no stone unturned," Nkoli said.

Pressed for further analysis, Nkoli acknowledged that the answer was "a little bit indirect, not really to the issue, but certainly not to our disadvantage."

Nkoli added that activists with the black-community-based Gay and Lesbian Organization of Witwatersrand recently participated as invited delegates to a major ANC conference.

In closing, Nkoli put out a plea for Western gay/lesbian activists to help GLOW delegates attend July's International Lesbian and Gay Association conference in Stockholm.

GLOW wants to send a woman and two black men to the gathering and has saved enough money for two registration fees and one air fare. The group is seeking contributions to cover a third registration fee (about \$250) and two more Johannesburg-Stockholm round-trip air tickets. Anyone willing to help may phone Nkoli, dialing direct to 011-27-11-837-6413. The time is seven hours later than U.S. EST. ▼

Authority Leaves Disabled Waiting

by Dennis Conkin

About 400 people — including people with AIDS — on a paratransit services top priority waiting list will have to wait months longer to be able to receive such services following a vote of the San Francisco County Transit Authority on March 14.

Supervisors Bill Maher and Tom Hsieh voted against a proposal that would have enabled the program to get an early start with a \$100,000 loan from city coffers.

The program will receive \$72 million during a 20-year period that begins next month under the provisions of Proposition B, which was passed in November 1988.

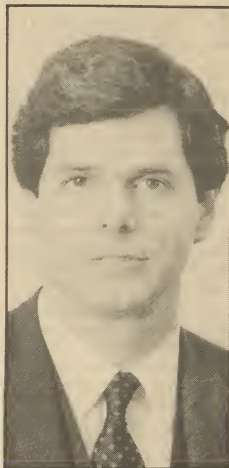
The one-half percent sales tax will fund transportation projects and is expected to generate almost \$900 million for transportation projects in San Francisco. None of the funds would be spent of mass-transit projects, 30 percent on the maintenance and improvement of roads and highways, and 8 percent is allocated to paratransit services, which

provides transit services, including taxi scrip and mobile van transportation for the disabled.

"Paratransit services have suffered with a shoe-string budget for years," Supervisor Harry Britt told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "There are huge demands for the services, from people with AIDS and others who do not have access to transportation and need to get to their doctors."

According to Rick Ruvulo, Britt's aide, the top priority waiting list includes PWAs, people needing kidney dialysis, frail elderly over 85 years old in wheelchairs, seriously ill cancer patients and people using oxygen machines.

"The measure would have allowed them to offer paratransit services to everyone on the top priority waiting list. Some people on the waiting list will die before they receive transportation services," Ruvulo said.



Bill Maher

Britt said that the measure probably would pass in April and that the defeat of the measure was "a political move to stall the measure" by Maher and Hsieh.

He said that most of the transit commissioners supported the measure, but that because some were absent last week, Maher and Hsieh were able to defeat the request.

Male vs. Female, Gay vs. Straight

Tensions Easing At Hodel's Box

by Allen White

"The battle may be over," sighed a relieved Page Hodel last Saturday night at her wildly successful Box dance emporium on Divisadero Street.

For the past two months the club has been invaded by heterosexuals, their curiosity piqued by an article in the *San Francisco Examiner*.

Since the Box opened at the Kennel Club about two years ago, the club has been a unique blend of gays and lesbians of all ages, and some straight friends.

"The magic is the Box has been an incredible mix of people."

Everything seemed to change after Jan. 28, when the article appeared in the *Sunday Examiner's Focus* magazine. The story portrayed the club as one of the city's more successful and progressive gay dance clubs and in the process created a curiosity for many straights.

"After the *Examiner* article came out," Hodel said, "we were pretty nervous because we were getting an influx of straight people. The bottom line is we don't care who comes in this door as long as they are respectful of the people who are in here."

The problems facing the Box were beginning to destroy a certain balance that had been created.

Hodel said they were concerned because "a lot of people standing around, staring and gawking and coming on to everybody creates tension. Gay people don't want to deal with that in their space. They go to a gay club because they want to feel safe and comfortable and that is what we try to do."

Of the straights she said, "I think they said this is not where we want to be. The funny thing is that, until the article came out, there were lots of

(Continued on page 19)

Gay Man Has Run In With Post Office

by Dennis Conkin

March 15 was a day from hell for *Bay Area Reporter* reader Michael Fiumara.

Fiumara, 32, just wanted to pick up a package from the post office, but before he got the package, he ended up being verbally abused, threatened with arrested and was held for over an hour by security forces of the United States Postal Service.

It began Thursday morning when Fiumara called the Harrison Street post office to find out why he had gotten a final notice of attempted parcel delivery, when he hadn't even gotten a first or second notice that there was a package waiting for him.

The woman answering the phone, he says, was rude and surly on the phone, wouldn't tell him whether he had a package waiting and said that he would have to come to the post office to find out.

Fiumara, decidedly unsatisfied with the clerk's attitude and response, asked her for her name and to speak to a supervisor.

The clerk declined to connect him with a supervisor and wouldn't identify herself. He called back, she hung up on him. He tried one last time, and she hung up again.

Fiumara went down to the Harrison Street post office and asked another clerk who was answering the phone. The clerk identified the woman and indicated to Fiumara with body language to follow him, he said.

Fiumara followed behind a set of double doors and said that when the woman saw him coming she jumped out of her chair, started screaming at the top of her lungs and wagging

(Continued on page 19)



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RETAIL ENTERTAINMENT!

Media Hysteria Alert

by Michael C. Botkin

The mainstream media typically offers a very distorted image of the world. You only have to compare their coverage of the 'quake—raging fires, collapsed freeways, "hundreds" of deaths—to what actually occurred to get a good idea of how detached from reality they are.

Mainstream coverage of AIDS is typically abysmal, but last week was one of the worst

since the epidemic began.

Every major AIDS story last week had a heavy mainstream "spin" on it, to make it proof of how good and wise the Great White Fathers of the medical profession are, and evidence of how dangerous and silly the rest of us are. That the facts had to be twisted, ignored and/or simply reversed to make the stories come out that way didn't appear to bother them at all.

Let's start with ddl. The headlines shrieked that a "disgraceful" number of PWAs in the "parallel track" of the ddl trials were dying. Led by the obnoxious Gina Kolata of *The New York Times*, the mainstream pointed an accusing finger at AIDS activists who had rushed this dangerous and unproven treatment into premature release.

The hundreds of PWAs who died while in clinical trials for Suramim or AZT, many because of malpractice and the "need" to collect data, never drew any media attention.

But when the activists push for something, such as compound Q or expanded access to ddl, the media scrutinizes it mercilessly and inevitably finds it unacceptable.

As I pointed out in my coverage of ddl last week, although five times as many people in the expanded access did indeed die from pancreatitis, there are more than 10 times as many people getting ddl that way instead of in the "controlled" clinical trials.

In other words, the death-from-pancreatitis rate was twice as high in the study as it was in the "dangerous" expanded access. The mainstream media ignored this pertinent little detail.

Some mainstream stories went so far as to blame the "extra" deaths on the lack of adequate monitoring in the expanded access group. Another lie; if you want ddl outside of the clinical trials, you have to provide about twice as much monitoring paperwork as you would otherwise. This is one of the factors pushing people toward clinical trials, because hardly anyone can afford all the lab work required to get the drug through expanded access.

The mainstreamers have backed off a little bit, and even Gina wrote what amounted to a retraction in the March 19 issue of the *New York Times*. But the interesting thing is the way in which the mainstream spin on the story ended up actually reversing reality—mainstream foot-dragging is killing PWAs, not activists' agitation for more access to treatments.

Second on the list of media atrocities last week is the coverage of compound Q. For the first time, a community-based organization, Project Inform, had a study approved by the FDA. The media ignored this element of the story and instead focused on a statement by Donald Abrams, M.D., of the County Community Consortium. Abrams, in fact, was criticizing the FDA and not Project Inform. His main gripe was that by approving their new Q trial without ever discussing Project Inform's previous "underground" trial, the FDA was fudging on an important issue, namely changes in the entire drug trial approval process.

The media distorted Abrams' statement into an attack on Project Inform and created an impression that medical officialdom was condemning the fringe. Once again, the net effect was a reversal of reality instead of official approval for the activist approach, which was what the story was really all about, you get quasi-official rejection of alternative methods.

Less dangerous and more amusing, but still an example of mainstream media distortion was the whole "Salk vaccine/Nun sacrifice" story. The Salk vaccine is fast proving to be a washout with little promise, and would never have gotten any headlines if it didn't have the famous Salk's name on it.

Attempting to revive their fading product, the Salk people got together with another empty-headed organization, the Archdiocese of San Diego, and put together a massive PR gesture, the selfless sacrifice of aged priests and nuns to test the "promising" Salk vaccine.

It blew up in their faces, because many people saw the archdiocese's offer as an unfortunate statement on the expendability of older nuns and not priests who, as the entire gay community knows, are anything but chaste.

The interesting thing is that the mainstream media still managed to twist the story into a reversal of what actually happened. When the story hit the press, the Salk people were still waiting for approval of their California-based test of the vaccine in healthy, HIV-negative subjects.

The day after the story broke they got approval for a different study, a nationwide testing of the therapeutic effects of the vaccine on HIVers.

The media, including one of San Francisco's gay newspapers—confused the two studies, and the net effect was "well, a bunch of gay radicals bitched about the Catholic Church's hypocrisy and almost derailed an important study, but the approval came through anyway."

In fact, the "nun sacrifice" study is still waiting for approval and approval for the study that uses HIVers as guinea pigs was never in doubt.

You wouldn't know this from reading the newspapers unless you read very, very carefully. The net result was a lot of good PR for a treatment that is probably useless—but the mainstream is always more interested in vaccines that protect "us" (white, middle-class heterosexuals) than it is in treatments for "them" (people of color, street people and gays).

No coverage of mainstream media hysteria would be complete without addressing the "unsafe sex" studies that made the headlines last week. The lead for this story went something like "Half (or a third) of gay men are practicing unsafe sex." Again, some gay papers went along with the mainstream on this.

Well, there has been some relapse, though not as much as this study implies. But to get the really shocking big figures that make for good headlines, you had to throw in oral sex and probably deep kissing as "unsafe" sex as well. The fact remains that even if you count oral sex as unsafe (which after all, is just more media hysteria), even when you total in all of the relapsing, the gay community has a lot less unsafe sex than anyone else.

Once again, the media reverses reality, and the gay community, instead of being the safest-sex community in the world, is portrayed as a bunch of dangerous fuckpigs.

So if we take all of the above stories as a whole, what is the image we get of the epidemic? It's one where activists and fringe elements dangerously tinker with medical technology, to the universal condemnation of the medical mainstream and at the cost of hundreds of lives. We see brave researchers and selfless religious institutions trying to stop the spread of the disease into the "innocent" communities, only to be harassed—in vain, thank God!—by shrill activists.

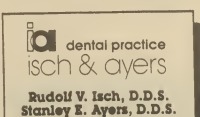
And these same activists, while endangering the development of a vaccine, continue to thoughtlessly spread the disease among themselves.

I've never been big on conspiracy theories, but this is scary. If they just missed an occasional detail or betrayed a touch of bias now and then, I would rest easy. But this universal and consistent reversal of reality is dangerous. This kind of slander sets us up for all kinds of repression and prejudice.

I daily thank the goddess that we have an independent gay and lesbian media, and a strong and militant AIDS activist community. But even so, we are losing the information war in the mainstream, and there's no telling where a defeat there will lead. ▼

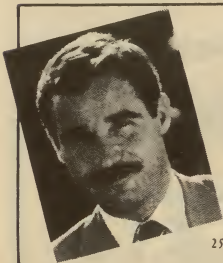
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AIDS Briefs

AIDS Benefit Album Sales Strong

KKS-FM's 14-song "AIDS Sampler" album, which benefits the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, has sold more than 30,000 copies in three months, raising more than \$90,000, the organization reported this month. The sampler, which is available on compact disc and cassette, features "New Age" artists such as Larry Carlton and Kenny G. and is available at record stores throughout the Bay Area. "We are very excited by the Bay Area's response to our sampler for AIDS relief, and we're about to order a second pressing," Steve Feinstein, KKS-FM program director, said. ▼

Asian AIDS Project Outreach

The Insurance Industry AIDS Initiative has awarded the Asian AIDS Project a one year grant for \$25,000 to provide AIDS outreach and education to Asian/Pacific Islander youth. The Asian AIDS Project is the only agency in the San Francisco Bay Area that was selected for funding and one of only 14 programs selected nationally. Asian/Pacific Islander youth are the largest ethnic-minority group in San Francisco. The youth are at high risk for AIDS infection because of their experimentation with sex, drugs and alcohol. There are not any AIDS prevention programs in San Francisco that are funded to provide culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate services for Asian/Pacific Islander youth. ▼

Health Calendar

FRIDAY

AIDS Satellite Television Network: Topics: Immunomodulators, Management of the Asymptomatic HIV Patient. Programs may be viewed at Pacific Presbyterian Medical Center, 923-3440.

The Courage to Care: Mar. 24 & 25, training based on the Shanti peer support model, designed for caregivers who want to offer more effective support to people with AIDS and become better at self-care. Call Christine Buck, 777-2273.

Face to Face, Sonoma County AIDS Network: Mar. 23-25, training for volunteers to work with people with AIDS. Fri. 7-10 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Community Hospital, 3325 Chanate, Santa Rosa. Registration, 887-1581.

Help People with AIDS: Office volunteers needed to help people with AIDS/ARC access much needed services. Catholic Charities/SF is looking for people available to work any part of a M-F, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. shift. Telephone and light office skills desirable; full training given. Bob Nelson, 864-7400.

AIDS Volunteers Needed: Kaiser Permanente Medical Center training session, Mar. 30-Apr. 1. Call Dave Seibert, 929-4186.

HIV+ Potluck: 7:30 p.m. MCC Church, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

Young Lesbian Rap Group: For those 23 and under. Meets Fridays, 7-9 p.m., ending April 6. MCC Church, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

Young Gay Men's Rap Group: For those 23 and under. Meets Fridays, 7-9 p.m. This is a non-therapy rap group conceived and conducted by gay & bisexual young men. MCC Church, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

Living Well With AIDS/ARC: Support group based on Attitudinal Healing Principles. 1-3 p.m. & 7-9 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

SATURDAY

Healing Our Lives: Living/Dying Project's community training program to deeply explore the attitudes and states of heart/mind necessary for consciously working with transformation and with life-threatening illness. Mar. 24, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., and Mar. 25, 1-6 p.m., at Trinity Methodist Church, 2362 Bancroft, Berkeley. \$100. Call Riley Miller, 488-4617.

Women With Wings—In Constant Motion: For women with HIV. Alternate Saturdays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sliding scale. SF location. 695-1254.

Women's Clinic: Call at 8:30 a.m. for same day appointment. Pap smears, STD, bladder & pregnancy testing. Health care by and for women. Berkeley Free Clinic, 548-2570.

SUNDAY

Afternoon Tea: Come play games & socialize, 2-7 p.m. For PWA/PWARC/PWHIVs. Free. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

Men's Clinic: Free & confidential VD testing and treatment for gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, venereal warts, etc. AIDS/ARC counseling and referrals. 6-8 p.m. Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 644-0425.

MONDAY

The Buddy Connection: A safe sex workshop for gay and bisexual men. Free. 7-10 p.m. 25 Van Ness Ave., 3rd floor, SF. 864-4376.

Support Group for Older Gay Men (60+): Every Monday, 7-9 p.m. 1853 Market St., SF. GLOE, 626-7000.

HIV+ Support Groups—Hayward & Tri-Valley Areas: A variety of emotional support groups for PWAs, HIV+, friends, families & lovers. A safe place to share your feelings. Meets every Monday and Wednesday. 887-0566.

TUESDAY

The Inner Path to Success: Talk by Rev. Andrew Bozeman at 7 p.m. Amron Metaphysical Center, 2254 Van Ness, SF. 775-0227.

Free Drop-In Group for Gay Men with Drug/Alcohol Problems: Every Tuesday, 7-8:30 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. 626-7000.

Lesbian Psychotherapy Group: 5:30-7 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. Call 626-7000 for appointment.

Asian Gay Men's Support Group: 6:30-8 p.m. The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 548-8283.

WEDNESDAY

AZT Today: "Living with HIV" public forum explores the latest developments with AZT, with Paul A. Volberding, MD. All welcome. 7-9 p.m. AIDS Health Project, 1855 Folsom/15th St., Rm. 125, SF. 476-6430.

Finding Love All Minds United (FLAME): Healing meditation at 6:30 p.m.; fellowship at 7:30 p.m. 1838 15th St./Ramona, SF. 566-4122.

Moving Towards Life: A cancer self-care program based on the use of visualization, movement and the creative process by Anna Halprin with Jamie McHugh. Wednesdays until Apr. 11, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Tamalpa Institute, Kentfield. 461-9479.

THURSDAY

Insurance/Employee Benefits Clinic: 6:15, 7 & 7:45 p.m. every Thursday. Free 45 min. private session with an attorney on benefits, COBRA and insurance problems. AIDS Legal Referral Panel, 25 Hickory/Van Ness, SF. 864-8186.

Drop-in Support Group for Caregivers: For professional and non-professional caregivers of HIV infected persons, facilitated by John McGrann. Thru. Apr. 5. 7:30-9 p.m. Kairos House, 114 Douglass, SF. 861-0877.

AIDS Experts to Urge AZT at 500 T-Cell Level

by Michael C. Botkin

A panel of AIDS experts from all over the United States, including Dr. Paul Volberding of San Francisco General Hospital, met early this month to discuss the "state-of-the-art" of AZT treatment for HIV.

Among their recommendations, which will be published in the prestigious *Journal of the American Medical Association*, is the suggestion that AZT be prescribed for all HIVers with CD4 lymphocyte (T-cell) counts of less than 500.

The panel was convened by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases to speed up the adoption of the new guidelines for AZT use by front-line health providers.

The FDA recently decided to cut the standard dose of AZT in half, at the request of its manufacturer, Burroughs-Wellcome.

Now the FDA has also decided to begin AZT treatment sooner as well.

The goal of the panel's report is to clear up confusion about when to begin treatment with AZT. Until now medical experts have debated whether to wait until HIVers develop symptoms before initiating AZT therapy, and as a result many insurers have been reluctant to pay for "early" treatment with AZT.

Doctors who wanted to start HIVers with more than 200 T-cells (the old recommended start point) on AZT often had to fight for it on a case-by-case basis, citing symptoms and numerous lab tests.

In its executive summary, the panel clearly stated the new guidelines.

"Therapy with AZT is recommended for both symp-

tomatic and asymptomatic HIV-infected individuals whose CD4 counts are below 500, at a total daily dose of 500 mg.

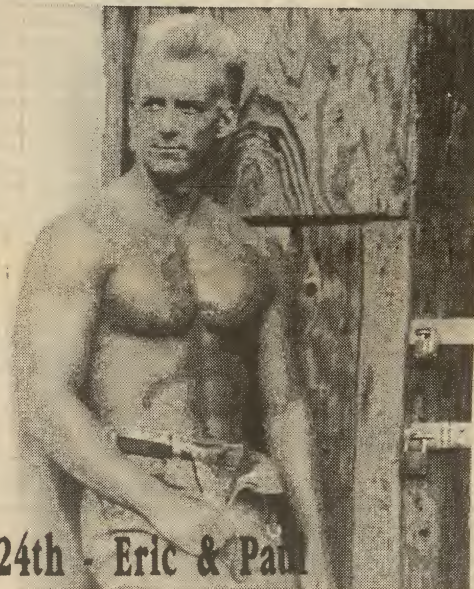
"There is no laboratory marker other than CD4 count that is necessary in deciding when to initiate AZT therapy."

This is the first time the FDA has clearly called for AZT therapy for HIVers without symptoms. The change in criteria could impact thousands of healthy HIVers.

The panelists noted that "large groups of individuals, notably women, minorities, and intravenous drug users were only moderately represented in the major studies on which these recommendations are based." But, they insist, "...there is no reason to believe that these recommendations are not equally applicable to these populations."

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Bay Area Reporter Open Forum

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EXECUTIVE & EDITORIAL OFFICES:
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103-3831

TELEPHONE:
(415) 861-5019, 861-7230

PUBLISHER:
Bob Ross

NEWS EDITOR:
Jeff Boswell

FEATURES EDITOR:
Daniel Mangin

PRODUCTION EDITOR:
Michael Yamashita

FINE ARTS EDITOR:
George Heymont

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Wayne Friday

OFFICE MANAGER:
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Ann S. West

ART DIRECTOR:
Richard Burt

CAMERA, PRODUCTION:

TYPESETTING:
Henry Mach

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER:
Rick Gerharter

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS:
George T. Kruse, T.L. Litt,
PhotoGraphics/Darlene,
Robert Pruzan, Rink,
Steve Savage

CARTOONISTS:
Kurt Erichsen, Frisch, Kris Kovick

LEGAL COUNSEL:
Thomas E. Horn, Esq.

AUDITOR/ACCOUNTANT:
Robert J. Dern, C.P.A.

CONTRIBUTORS:
Dianne Aaronson, Steve Abbott,
Dorothy Allison, Les Balmain,
Noreen C. Barnes, Ron Bluestein,
Cindy Bologna, Michael C. Botkin,
Kate Brandt, Philip Campbell,
Dennis Conkin, Gregory
Douthwaite, Dave Ford,
Wayne Friday, George Heymont,
Mike Hippler, Patrick Hoctel,
Frank J. Howell, Mark Johnson,
John F. Karr, Kevin Killian,
Steve Lawson, Henry Mach,
Mr. Marcus, MJ Murphy,
Jay Newquist, Nez Pas,
Ray O'Loughlin, Cliff O'Neill,
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Marv Shaw, Will Snyder, Warren
Sonbert, David Taylor-Wilson,
Rick Thoman, Kitty Tsui,
James Tushinski, Dick Walters,
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Keith White, Rex Wockner,
Bob Woolhouse



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EDITORIAL

The San Francisco AIDS Model

What made the San Francisco model so effective? It was volunteers. When the AIDS crisis hit this city the community responded overwhelmingly by volunteering to help raise money, take care of patients and do all the little things necessary to help in the fight against AIDS. Even now, many PWAs volunteer their limited time and resources to help many of our AIDS organizations. So why is the model failing? We believe two things happened.

First, the amount of time, money and energy required of the volunteers became monumental. There was just too much to do and not enough people to do it. As the AIDS crisis escalated, the volunteer services became strung out and people started to burn/stress out. As they dropped by the wayside the crisis began. The organizations had not made too many provisions to strengthen their forces during this time and in many cases actually turned away other volunteers, stating that they had sufficient people.

Secondly, some of the arrogance and demands placed upon volunteers by uncaring, mean-spirited paid staff persons helped to turn off people's willingness to work and they walked off with bad feelings. The attitude was that if these people could get money for their services, why shouldn't they? We believe that most organizations have cleaned up or removed these offensive staff persons and are once again soliciting volunteers. They are also being more flexible in their hours and demands on people.

There are many fine organizations in our community who need you. They are not all AIDS organizations. If you would like to help out, why not switch to one of these alternate groups if you are burned out on AIDS? However, we implore you to volunteer your time or services to the AIDS groups. As their money dries up they will have to rely once again on volunteers and we believe they will honestly strive to be more appreciative than they were in the past.

There is no finer reward on earth than the feeling you will get for a job well done by yourself. The look of thanks in the eyes of an AIDS patient or the thank you from an appreciative senior is all the sweeter, knowing that you have helped someone to maintain their dignity or well-being. Call up your favorite charities and ask, "How may I help?" Become a true San Franciscan and volunteer.



GUEST OPINION

Use Caution With Mace

Members of the lesbian, gay and bisexual community have recently been advised by a number of letter writers to use Mace for self protection.

We believe the great amount of violence against lesbian and gay people does warrant strong action, especially in the area of increased personal safety. However, we do not recommend Mace or other forms of tear gas because, even with proper training, it is likely to be ineffective.

The main problem with Mace is that the victim is not able to hit the target area of the assailant. In one study of licensed Mace users, victims missed their assailants 80 percent of the time.

Even when the Mace user is able to spray the attacker in the face, the attacker is often not incapacitated and the assault continues.

Also, Mace can be taken from an assault victim and used against him or her. Again, this happens even when a person is fully trained in correct usage.

Finally, carrying Mace can create a false sense of security. You may not use other, more effective, personal safety techniques if you think Mace will protect you. Even if Mace were effective, it would still be useless when you are caught by surprise or when it is in your bag or purse.

Community United Against Violence continues to recommend the following personal safety measures.

Self Defense. The best thing you can do to protect yourself is to take a good self defense course. You will learn how to avoid dangerous situations, how to protect yourself from an attacker, and how to respond to an attack by a group. You will learn to develop self confidence as a self-defense skill and how to defuse potentially dangerous situations. Instructors will work with people who are small and the elderly. There's also a class available for persons with disabilities.

Be Aware. Pay attention to your surroundings. Walk with other people, especially at night or if you have been drinking. Stay in well populated and well lighted areas; stay away from shrubbery or doorways that might hide an attacker.

Carry a Whistle. Whistles tell everyone that there is trouble. Blow a whistle if you feel threatened; attackers will often be scared and help will come. Blow a whistle if you see someone else in trouble. If you hear a whistle, call 911. However, don't let a whistle give you a false sense of security; whistles don't protect you from a surprise attack or a determined assailant.

Use Your Intuition. Cross the street, or walk in the street, if you feel uncomfortable. Learn how to walk assertively.

Be Bold. Don't be afraid to scream before trouble begins. Give yourself permission to be "impolite" or "overcautious"; you don't have to smile or talk to strangers that approach you. Turn around and see who's behind you.

Organize a Neighborhood Watch. Your streets really are much safer if you know your neighbors.

If you are attacked, Community United Against Violence may be able to help you. We provide crisis counseling, referrals, criminal justice aid, and help in receiving financial reimbursement for medical expenses or therapy related to the crime. Our 24-hour crisis line phone number is 864-7233.

For more information on how to join a self defense course or where to get a sturdy brass whistle, call us at 864-3112. If you're interested in Neighborhood Watch, call Project SAFE at 673-7233.

I'd like to thank Loretta Whitehead of Project SAFE for her help in preparing this letter.

—Barbara Cameron

LETTERS

Not the Only Dream

This letter was sent to Martin Luther King III:

★ I am so disturbed by your remarks about gays and lesbians (Feb. 27, 1990). I cannot express to you the horror, shock and sadness I feel. Sir, you have brought great dishonor to the memory of your father! We are not born with prejudice, we are taught to pre-judge others. I am now given to wonder how homosexuals were talked about during your upbringing. Did your father, while seeking dignity and equal opportunity for the African-Americans, teach his children to be homophobic?

Mr. King, your local gay and lesbian leaders may be satisfied with your retraction, but I am not. To right this terrible thing you have done, you must first stand before those same young people in which you have helped to sow the vile seeds of hatred and oppression. Now you must spray from your mouth and heart the pesticide of love and peaceful co-existence. To the gay and lesbian students you addressed you have caused grievous psychological damage that you alone can correct!

Sir, gays and lesbians are born; they are not converts from heterosexuality. We, Mr. King, like you, were created by God. As far as I know, God doesn't make mistakes.

I don't believe that your father's dream of equality and justice was held in his heart exclusively for African-Americans. You see, Mr. King, I too have a dream. I have a dream that the sons of great men will one day be great men. I have a dream that the champions of one generation will spawn the champions of the next. I have a dream that one day the rights that our ancestors secured, and that are enjoyed by my heterosexual brothers and sisters, might one day be afforded me. Sir, yours is not the only dream!

Gordon Cearlock
Tucson, Arizona

In Defense of Jerry and Pat

★ In reply to the letter from Hans Anderson:

I have been involved in the Court System for the past two years, mainly because my good friends Jerry Coletti and Pat Montclair asked me for help in their campaign to become emperor and empress. I do not know how much money Jerry spent in order to achieve this, and personally I don't think it's anyone's business; of course there are always people who will tell you how to spend your money.

I do know that I attended many fundraisers and Pat and Jerry were always there; I don't remember seeing or meeting you Hans, of course you must have been busy with your calculator.

I have witnessed Jerry on many occasions donate money and help to those people in need, not to mention the hours both Jerry and Pat worked to help this community.

Mr. Hans Anderson should take a good look in the mirror and ask himself: "What have I done to help people in need?" I know! You spent your money on having your calculator repaired.

I do know that I was one of many who helped Jerry and Pat, and I think they deserve more than your two-bit advice.

If you don't believe in this, why don't you stay the hell out of it and keep your narrow opinions to yourself—especially since you don't have a clue as to what you are talking about. It's people like you who give us all a bad name. BIG MOUTH NO HELP.

Norma Jean Anderson
San Francisco

Speak for Yourselves

★ In response to Krandal Kraus' letters to the editor:

The majority of his writings carry a tone of frustration in regard to the health crisis (understandably). However, I have yet to find any value in having to repeatedly confront the "let's throw in the towel, this is bigger than all of us" attitude he presents.

Processing the grief and loss in your life is one thing, making a spectacle of personal cynicism is quite another. Yes, there are people dying of AIDS, but it has become a manageable condition. Survival rates have extended in comparison to what they were only a few years back. Perhaps you have difficulty overcoming your conditioning and cannot allow yourself to open to the reality that many are living with AIDS, surviving, and

in some cases effecting a reversal of symptoms and their HIV status. And managing to enjoy life as well. Where have you been the past couple of years?

You seem overly concerned with circulating your name in the community, rather than presenting a balanced, helpful view of the negative and positive aspects of this situation we are all facing in one way or another. If you have real concern for our community, and for those dealing with the health crisis, I feel you would acknowledge the reality of the situation, but rather than dwelling on it, focus on the challenge and opportunity it brings to enjoying each moment. We all share in the process of living and dying; it's what we do in between that's important.

If you are attempting to speak as the voice of authority for the rest of us, I'd prefer you examine your personal angst before dumping a one-sided tunnel vision view onto us readers.

Lyle Madsen
Martinez, CA

Ghastly Suggestion

★ I guess Ron Bayles doesn't like Cleve Jones. OK, I don't know that much about him, but I do know a little about the Names Project. I've made a lot of panels for the quilt, not as a temporary memorial, and certainly not as kindling for a meaningless incendiary incident. Admittedly, the suggestion of burning it got to me.

The quilt raises money throughout the U.S. for local communities that have no other means to raise money for pervasive AIDS expenses. To destroy the quilt, or let it rot away in its present situation (un-reinforced masonry bldg/no temperature or humidity controls) is tantamount to abdicating the AIDS leadership role San Francisco has set.

In the midst of our troubles, there is a rainbow. Let's not react to Trinity Methodist's offer with callous knee-jerk anti-Christian prejudice. Ron's suggestion that an association with them is "unhealthy" may be true. It certainly has been for them. The arson that created the empty hole at Noe and Market nine years ago was not healthy.

Other than MCC, that little congregation has been the most openly pro-gay in town. They gave refuge to two gay groups in the Castro, long before it was popular. Their fire was no surprise, Christian congregations around the country are burnt out for giving aid or comfort to gay groups. But they continue to support us.

Now they offer us a great gift. Let's examine it closely. Let's offer our input, it's not a done deal, not a backroom deal. Even a known NIMBY like me, can sometimes delight in a development.

Doug Comstock
San Francisco

Identify Judges

★ Remembering so well when John O'Connell was needlessly attacked and killed by Donald Clanton, Timothy White and David Rogers of Vallejo, I was most disturbed when they were released from prison despite murder convictions... how the State Court of Appeals quickly and quietly railroaded that decision through. Does the B.A.R. still have the names of those judges involved in that decision, and also the attorney who represented these three, the woman who was said to represent Timothy White in particular, who claimed that such a change had come over the boys since the unfortunate incident? If so, would you kindly print these names? Thanks.

S. Hunter
San Francisco

Brandy Moore is Right

★ I am rarely in agreement with Brandy Moore's viewpoints. However, this time he is correct. Gay minorities have once again been playing catch up in regards to AIDS education and funding.

Being a minority gay PWA, I can understand his concern. If there had been more available to the minority communities sooner (gay and straight) we may have been able to avoid the devastation that is occurring.

I, myself, have learned that there are many services available that are not necessarily geared for minorities. However, it is up to us to stand up for and ask for services that we need.

Thanks Brandy for pointing that out.

E. A. Johnson
San Francisco

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LETTERS

CUAV Says Thanks

★ Community United Against Violence Lesbian and Gay Speakers Bureau will soon receive a \$10,000 grant from the City for our work in educating the City's youth issues of our community.

We want to thank those primarily responsible for assuring that this funding, part of the "AIDS augmentation funds, would support the Speakers Bureau. In particular, Jean Harris of Harry Britt's office and Carmen Vasquez of the Department of Public Health worked to include the program in this funding, the mayor's office supported the move, and ACT UP coordinated public pressure to ensure the funding release after the earthquake.

Our thanks to everyone involved.

Barbara Cameron
Executive Director

British Extortion

★ A statement of fact that raises a question in my mind. The patent for AZT is the property of the U.S. Government, theoretically, the property of the people. I am curious to know why the AZT patent has been accorded to the Burroughs-Wellcome pharmaceutical company, a British firm, for its exclusive use, pricing AZT to suit their fancy.

In effect, they have been awarded a monopoly on AZT, a patent that belongs to all of us, permitting them to price-gouge all of us, removing AZT from a competitive market, from an American market, from a people's market.

One wonders how much influence was paid under the counter to swindle the U.S. public out of a drug, which, legally belongs to them?

Of the people, by the people, for the people? It seems that our government is permitting a British company to extort the American health problem.

Charles Shuts
San Francisco

Glad For ACT UP

★ Mr. Sikes and Mr. Avila's letter regarding ACT UP was an ignorant diatribe if ever there was one. The tactics of ACT UP are not hate inspired and they are definitely not terrorist or fascistic. ACT UP does not exhibit elements of either. The tactics of ACT UP are at times confrontational and disruptive; tactics that are historically rooted in the lesbian/gay rights struggle. Specifically they were used quite successfully by the Gay Liberation Front in the 1960s/1970s.

In October 1970 at the second annual Behavior Modification Conference in Los Angeles, GLF members disrupted meetings claiming the conference was promoting barbarism and medieval torture.

They took over a meeting stating: "We are going to reconstitute this session into small groups with equal numbers of GLF members and members of your profession and we are going to talk as you have probably never talked with homosexuals before—as equals. We are going to talk about such things as homosexuality as an alternative life style."

A similar disruption took place six months earlier in San Francisco at a meeting of the American Psychiatric Association.

These tactics/strategy were not limited to the GLF. They were used by the feminist movement, the civil rights movement, the anti-Vietnam War movement and the student protest movement on university campuses across the country including San Francisco State and UC Berkeley.

I do not agree with everything that ACT UP does. They have made their mistakes, but as a PWA I am glad that they exist. Quite frankly, they are the only gay "activist" organization in town.

Scott T. Bishop
San Francisco

Any Response?

★ Regarding the letter from Hans Anderson, B.A.R., March 8, 1990. I couldn't agree more. It is high time that the gay community demand a full accounting of income and expenditures of the Imperial Court. Come to think of it, why do we even NEED an Imperial Court? Just so Jerry Coletti and Pat Montclair can parade around dripping in jewels, furs and bad make-up?

So you say the money that was spent on this year's coronation (God only knows what could

have cost \$200,000) were Jerry Coletti's personal funds. OK. I can accept that. This is America. He can do whatever the hell he pleases with HIS money. I really don't give a shit.

However, please don't expect or even ask me to support any of the activities of the Court when the "king" and "queen" in charge of the "kingdom" act in such an irresponsible and frivolous manner as these two have.

What could those funds have furnished to a person living with AIDS? How many meals could Mr. Coletti have provided to persons who cannot provide this basic need for themselves? What kind of care might that amount of money have afforded to persons ravaged by infection on top of infection? These are the questions that REALLY need to be answered. Care to respond Jerry, Pat?

Jeffrey P. Riddle
San Francisco

ACT UP Brings Change

★ Food Not Bombs supports ACT UP's actions as often as possible. Our cooperation together began with national protests in Washington, DC, in 1986 and 1987. Food Not Bombs has been active at ACT UP demonstrations such as White Night when twinkies were tossed at the TAC Squad. On October 6, 1989, many members of Food Not Bombs marched and rallied with ACT UP even though we also had a benefit that same night.

Food Not Bombs could well be called "Solutions to AIDS Genocide Not Bombs" or "Gay Rights Not Bombs." The criminals who are killing the homeless are the same people who turn their backs on health care for AIDS victims. In fact, the number of homeless suffering from AIDS is alarming. ACT UP is our idea of an effective way to bring about a real and positive change.

Andrea and Keith McHenry
And Everyone at Food Not Bombs

Offensive Diatribe

★ What is Andrew Betancourt (Letters, March 15) so angry about? The racist diatribe against Asian men in general and the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance in particular leveled by him is so offensive that it almost doesn't justify a reply.

What is wrong, I ask him, with Asians asking for an apology for an offensive remark? So what if the offensive remark mentioned Japanese and the letter was signed by two men with Chinese surnames? Do Japanese look so much different from Chinese that you can always tell them apart? Perhaps you will recall Vincent Chin, a Chinese, being beaten to death with a baseball bat because his attackers *thought* he was Japanese.

And why are you so upset that you can't join a group of people who you have such obvious distaste for? I disagree with you that minority people don't have needs which are different from the rest. They do more than "claim" to be discriminated against by the white majority in this country. They are. Just as gay men have needs different from society as a whole and have their own organizations to meet and work on them, so do people of color. Let's let them work it out on their own.

GAPA, isn't, to my mind, the racist organization that you seem to think it is. If you want to be involved with them, you can support the group with a contribution. They will, I'm sure, be happy to send you their newsletter. They will even invite you to their social gatherings and fundraising events. After all, even though GAPA is an organization for Asian/Pacific Islanders, not all of its members have other Asian/Pacific Islanders as partners and they seek to include their friends whenever possible.

And finally, AIDS. If we are to overcome this disease we must educate all of society, not just the white middle class. We must have an outreach to the gay community as well as the straight. The Black and Latin as well as the Asian community. To the drug users, the prostitutes, the school children, the poor. In short, to everyone. To accomplish this we must target specific groups of people. GAPA is involved, along with the Asian AIDS Project, in helping to spread the word to the Asian community so the AIDS won't spread further. I think that is a noble act, worthy of praise. Mr. Betancourt seems to think we should just ignore the Asian community (and, I guess, let them die). Now that is offensive.

The editor of *The Gay Book* apologized. Now it's Mr. Betancourt's turn.

Alan Voorhees
Oakland

LETTERS

Self-Evaluate

★ As a black gay male and a professional in the human services field I am acutely aware of the disproportionate number of blacks dying from AIDS. I am also aware of the problems disseminating culturally appropriate AIDS educational material to our community. In fact, it is not uncommon for me to encounter black gays who erroneously feel that they are immune to this disease if they do not "sleep" with white males.

So quite naturally I become concerned when an organization designated to serve people with AIDS and located in the heart of the black community has problems keeping a black gay director—an essential component to accessing the black community.

The AIDS Project of the East Bay (APEB) has had two black directors in less than a year. And I am especially concerned when it appears that the more recent director has the ability to bring that group of black brothers and sisters into the service delivery system who have been the most underserved.

Notwithstanding the fact that it is extremely difficult for a black lesbian or gay man to become as activist, for s/he must be able to cope with homophobia from the black community, internalized racism/homophobia from the black gay community, racism from the white gay community and racism and homophobia from the white community at large; APEB was able to find two black gay males who were willing to assume this challenge.

Instead of beginning a search for a new director, APEB needs to do some self-evaluation. Maybe it's not the directors but the organizational structure that needs scrapping. And I also feel that APEB owes those of us who are concerned, an explanation for the manner in which it has operated or failed to operate on this issue.

DeWitt Hoard, MSW
San Francisco

Clancy's Logic

The following was sent to the San Francisco Chronicle:

★ For those who were wondering where Commie-bashers would direct their ire in the post-Berlin Wall era, Tom Clancy (author of *The Hunt for Red October*) offered: "What can you say about a country that tolerates homosexuals but not smokers? I never gave anyone AIDS."

His comment brought to mind my adolescent experience, taking an inter-city bus trip, seated next to a man who chain-smoked foreign cigarettes all the way from New York to Washington.

I'm glad Mr. Clancy is so proud of never having transmitted the HIV virus. But as a gay man with asthma and respiratory problems I'd like to point out to Clancy that I have never butt-fucked my fellow passengers on a bus, train or airplane.

Henry Mach
San Francisco

AIDS Office Needs Input

★ Dr. James Dilley of the AIDS Health Project has apparently decided it would be unprofitable to attempt to answer my letter published in the *B.A.R.* on Feb. 15. You'd think the recipient of millions of dollars of city money would be accustomed to scrutiny.

But maybe not—maybe the San Francisco Health Department funds Dilley on the assumption that "counseling," "therapy" and "information" services must be beneficial. In fact they are an ideal means of tracking, persuasion and control; at best they are an attempt to change other people's behavior.

The issue that Dilley refuses to discuss are simple: In his book *Face to Face*, he proposes that HIV+ patients be followed aggressively by Project counselors from the moment of diagnosis. Chapter One recommends a "biopsychosocial assessment" as "baseline data" including "premorbid personality, coping skills, strengths and weaknesses, [and] risk for psychological decompensation." Never mind that such tracking is a gross invasion of human rights and a waste of AIDS money that could be put to infinitely better use.

Dilley's recommendation is not just a theoretical proposal. When the first AIDS Health Project staff member arrived on Ward 86, she proposed that everyone coming to the clinic submit to a psychiatric interview and announced that "everyone could use therapy." It's hard to think of a more corrupt, self-serving and immature

statement. I'm sure Dilley is now aggressively pursuing the job of counseling all HIV clients as recommended by the HIV Task Force. If he gets that job, it will be a license to siphon off millions more dollars of AIDS money for his Project. His book makes it clear that he is eager to uncover every disease known to man in any HIV positive (or HIV negative) client his Project can get its hands on.

Can anyone see any difference between Dilley consigning all AIDS patients to psychiatric supervision and the American Psychiatric Association's former designation of homosexuality as a mental illness?

The broader issue is that most of us in the community never learn the fine details of the services AIDS agencies are paid to provide. The Langley Porter Neuropsychiatric Institute carefully disguised its involvement in the "AIDS Health Project" for years. The only people who really know what's going on are the agencies who get the money—and they're the last people who should be allowed to formulate policy.

In San Francisco we have a self-propagating, ever-growing army of AIDS industry "experts" dedicated to making an excellent living from the disease for the duration. (How wealthy the industry must be to support the services of nonentities billing themselves as "independent consultants"!)

The gay community is not using its power to gain a say in determining the city's AIDS policies. It seems to me that town meetings, four times a year, for detailed debate of proposed AIDS office policies, should be a minimal requirement before we support the Health Department's AIDS efforts with our money and volunteer time.

Ken Martin
San Francisco

Court Decision Ludicrous

★ In response to the item in the March 8 issue of *B.A.R.* entitled "2 Freed in Gay Death Face Charges," I would beseech the lover, friend, relative or whoever was a true friend to the deceased, John O'Connell, to seek second-degree murder charges and to regard as ludicrous the manslaughter charge in which the California State of Appeals is trying to pass off on the three individuals who murdered this man. If something of this nature ever happened to someone I loved, I would be pissed off to the hilt after hearing of a "reduced sentence" trying to be imposed.

In the first place, if John O'Connell was left alone as he left the bar, as he should have been, and not badgered by the three murderers, his death (How pathologists in a coroner's office can discern this, I would like to see in print in the *B.A.R.*, and if I was his caring survivor, would demand to see and have explained to me by a true expert in the matter of head injuries) would never have occurred and he should have been alive today.

The three people charged in this case knocked a man to the ground and induced to occur the resultant head injuries and are exclusively the cause of Mr. O'Connell's death regardless if they hit his head on the way down or what his head hit after his falling down and hitting the pavement; they created the means for the death to occur.

Zack Versace
San Francisco

Spend Money at Home

★ Isn't it great to know that our wonderful President Bush is more concerned with foreign affairs—\$300 million for Nicaragua and \$500 million in aid to Panama? But what about the people here at home in the United States?

Don't you get sick and tired of financing other countries while our friends and loved ones continue to die from AIDS? I strongly urge everyone to write President Bush and tell him this is our tax money—spend it here!

Jack C. Long
Guerneville, CA

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California Women in Politics

Although the only woman holding statewide office in California now is Secretary of State March Fong Eu, no less than six women have filed for top state posts in California.

While it is unlikely that all female state candidates will win — either in the June primary or in the November general election — it is, however possible that the majority of the state constitutional offices could be occupied by females come inauguration day next January.

Former San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein has emerged as the leading Democratic candidate for governor in the June 5 primary.

State Sen. Marian Bergeson of Newport Beach is seeking the Republican nomination for lieutenant governor; Los Angeles City Councilwoman Joan Flores is the probable GOP nominee against incumbent

Secretary of State Eu in the November election, and Kathleen Brown, daughter of former Gov. Edmund G. (Pat) Brown and sister of former Gov. Jerry Brown is seeking the Democratic nomination while yet another woman, former U.S. Treasurer Angela (Bay) Buchanan, a Republican, is seeking her party's nomination for that same job.

Feinstein must make it past Attorney General John Van de Kamp in the Democratic primary before taking on Republican Pete Wilson in the November election; Marian Bergeson has to defeat fellow Orange County state Sen. John Seymour for the dubious honor of facing incumbent Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy for the state's second top job; Joan Flores has to get past L.A. County Deputy District Attorney Gordon Levy; and Angela Buchanan would have to defeat incumbent state

Treasurer Tom Hayes to get the GOP nod to face Kathleen Brown in November.

But all these possibilities could happen making it possible that women would control the majority of the state constitutional offices beginning next year.

One woman who bailed out of a political fight for top office is Insurance Commissioner Roxani Gillespie, a Republican, who was appointed by Gov. George Deukmejian.

Two unknown Republicans, attorney Tom Skornia of San Jose, and insurance agent Wes Banister, will fight it out for their party nomination for the insurance job.

The Democrat candidates are: San Francisco attorney Ray Bourhis; state Board of Equalization chairman Conway Collis; state Sen. John Garamendi of Walnut Grove; former L.A. television commentator Bill Press; and former California Common Cause Executive Director Walter Zelman.

Jim Jones' Adviser

Saying he is "a Republican environmentalist in the tradition of Theodore Roosevelt," Tim Stoen, the former legal adviser to People's Temple founder Jim Jones, announced he will run for Congress for the Santa Rosa area seat now held by Democrat Douglas Bosco.

Stoen says he recognizes that his Jim Jones connections — he was Jones' personal attorney and one-time chairman of the board of the People's Temple — will probably eclipse his political pronouncements (he can say that again).

Stoen adds "but I feel wonderful because the love and acceptance I have found in this community is a signal to me that I can get on with my life."

And welcome to the real world, Mr. Stoen.

City Hall Rumor

One of the latest City Hall rumors has it that U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi wants to run for mayor after Art Agnos leaves office. Get in line, Nancy.

Incidentally, am I the only one that remembers the \$3 billion AIDS figure that Pelosi promised back when she was first running for Congress against Harry Britt? That's a long way from the total \$1.3 billion allotted this year.

Wilson Won't Endorse

Oakland Mayor Lionel Wilson, a life-long Democrat, is telling reporters he will not



March Fong Eu

endorse before the Democratic gubernatorial primary.

Wilson would campaign for Feinstein in November, but says, "I don't intend to ever endorse John Van de Kamp."

The Oakland mayor says he would probably vote for Republican Pete Wilson if the attorney general won the Democratic primary.

Marks Bowing Out?

And though he would of course deny it, rumors surfaced again this week that state Sen. Milton Marks will not seek another term, and the list of possible candidates for that seat is building once again.

Marks, incidentally, will join a group of other state legislators in soon endorsing Feinstein for governor.

Forbes' \$100 Bills

When the New York gay magazine *OutWeek* printed recently that publisher-industrialist Malcolm Forbes was gay, it only pre-empted what an upcoming biography of the late billionaire was reportedly going to confirm.

The *OutWeek* story, written by Michelangelo Signorile, said that Forbes often picked up young men and gave them \$100 bills even if they weren't interested in having sex.

Signorile, heavily criticized, even by many gay activists for writing the "exposure" only weeks after Forbes' death, said he did it because the magazine believes young gays need role models like Forbes to look up to.

GOP Nominee

Attorney Alan Nichols, a former president of the S.F. School Board and City College, will be the Republican nominee for Congress in the 5th District this November.

Mapplethorpe Estate

The estate of late gay photographer Robert Mapplethorpe is donating \$1 million to

Beth Israel Medical Center in New York and \$300,000 to New England Deaconess Hospital in Boston.

Mapplethorpe, who died of AIDS in 1989, was treated at both hospitals; funds will go to AIDS care and research.

Odds and Ends

Women in politics: There are only three women governors among the nation's 50 state chief executives; 27 women among the 535 House members, and two U. S. senators.

California Political Week (CALPEEK), the respected weekly political newsletter out of Los Angeles, is reporting on the latest *Los Angeles Times* Poll: "Which gubernatorial candidate is the most dynamic?" (charisma) Feinstein gets 39 percent, Wilson 21 percent, Van de Kamp 11 percent. What does this mean? According to *CALPEEK*: "It's Snow White vs. Sleepy and Dokey."

U.S. Attorney General Dick Thornburgh will speak to the Commonwealth Club tomorrow (March 23, 11:45 a.m. at the S.F. Hilton Hotel; call 543-3353 for info).

Wes Walker, a 32-year-old exotic dancer, who claims his candidacy is "taking off," is the GOP candidate for Assembly in the 28th Assembly District (Carmel Valley).

Walker who has been peeling for parties for more than five years, is the only GOP challenger to incumbent Sam Farr, (D-Carmel).

Walker: "Just like I don't think you should stereotype what a Republican is, I don't think that I should be stereotyped because I'm an exotic dancer, either."

And then there's *San Francisco Focus* magazine's classic comment on Supervisor (and assessor candidate) Wendy Nelder: "Nelder has been able to single herself out as possibly the wackiest officeholder of our time."



Sen. Milton Marks

by Kurt Erichsen

MURPHY'S MANOR



Writers and Egos

"It's about time someone recognized me," I thought.

The first panel session of "Out Write '90: The First National Lesbian and Gay Writers Conference" at the Cathedral Hill Hotel had just ended, and the man leaning over the back of his chair asked, "So, Mr. Hippler, what did you think?"

Assuming him to be an avid fan eager for my learned opinion, I expounded for a moment or two about the presentations we had just heard. My interrogator nodded solemnly, then asked, "And what do you do? Are you a writer too?"

I was dumbstruck until I realized that the man hadn't recognized me at all; he merely had read my name tag and had asked my opinion out of politeness. If not that, then he was trying to pick me up. Either way, I was insulted.

The nerve!

I should have known I was ripe for a fall when a promotional brochure for the writers conference arrived in the mail several weeks earlier, and not one of the more than 75 names printed on the cover was mine. The names were all of allegedly respected and well-known writers who had agreed to participate in the conference; the point of the list, I suppose, was to convince other writers to attend. But all it really did, no doubt, was to bruise the egos of writers like myself whose names were omitted. We writers are a sensitive lot.

Unknown Names

Naturally, I did not place myself in the same class as Allen Ginsberg, Harold Norse or even Ann Bannon. Still, the majority of the names on the brochure were entirely unknown to me. Furthermore, most of those that were familiar hardly deserved such prominence. I could give examples—plenty of 'em—but hey, I need all the friends I can get, especially in this profession.

Although I felt slighted, at least I was asked to participate in the conference. I was invited to appear on the panel "Writing Against the Tide: Chronic Illness, Disability and Writing." But even then I was ungrateful.

It was not that I didn't want to be defined primarily as a writer with HIV disease rather than as a writer, period, or even a gay writer—although that was part of it. It was mainly that I wanted to be recognized for my other accomplishments as well.

Why shouldn't I have participated on the panel, "Uncovering Our Histories," for example? Didn't I write a "best-selling" biography last year? Or why not "Self Censorship and Personal Revelation?" What else am I known for if not the confessional nature of this column? Besides, the rooms where those panels were held were so much bigger than the room where I appeared.

But in the end I made peace with the conference organizers and myself. Listen, I decided, when it comes to opportunities for self-exposure, I'll take whatever I can get.

I know I wasn't the only per-

son to feel that way, the only one to want, nay, to expect recognition at the gathering, even though the gathering consisted of more than 1,200 other writers with more or less equal claims to fame. I know because a friend of mine who wrote one of the first books about AIDS and who now works for one of the few mainstream presses regularly publishing gay books confessed that he was miffed not to have received an invitation of his own to participate.

What We Deserve

I could only reply that he certainly deserved it. But we don't always get what we deserve. Who better than a writer, used to a steady barrage of rejection slips, should know that? Besides, in his case there were other reasons for the lack of an invitation—but none that compensated for the neglect he felt.

Although it may have been absurd of my friend and I to expect greater acclaim, it was certainly natural. One of the main reasons we write, after all, is to see our names bandied about. Unfortunately, they are not always bandied about to our liking.

One of the two people I hoped I would not see at the conference, for instance, was the man who trashed my book in the *Advocate*. The other was the author of a book I trashed in the *B.A.R.* Both men are established, experienced authors from whom I might have learned a great deal—but not in those circumstances.

Was it petty of me, I asked a friend at the conference, to feel this way, to find myself in a competitive relationship with some of the other writers rather than a cooperative one? No, he answered, pointing to a *New York Times* article about a forthcoming book entitled *The Psychology of Jealousy and Envy* by Dr. Peter Salovey, a psychologist at Yale University.

Noted Dr. Salovey, "You feel envy or jealousy in those areas where you stake your reputation and pride. Those who believe that they have to be the best in everything can feel it much of the time."

The way to handle envy, Salovey continued, is to do one of three things: to discount the importance of what caused the envy in the first place, to bolster self-esteem by concentrating on other areas of expertise, or simply to work harder. Unfortunately, none of these I was inclined to do.

Awards

Ironically on the same day the conference opened, the Cable Car Awards were presented to "outstanding" local journalists at another venue. Although I was no longer eligible to receive any kind of award, having entered the hallowed precincts of the "Hall of Honor" last year, I had hoped to be asked to present an award—any award.

Alas, rumor has it that I talk too much, and the organizers of the event were afraid that I would single-handedly cause the show to overrun its allotted time. I was never so insulted in all my life—and never so em-



Writers discuss AIDS issues at the recent Out Write '90 conference.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

barrassed by the pettiness of my emotions.

Well, hell, we are all petty at times. One of the conference's most celebrated writers namedropped relentlessly when he took over the podium. He had once shared a cabin with Tennessee Williams, he noted, when Williams was writing "The Glass Menagerie." He had also read "Jimmy" Baldwin's manuscript of *Go Tell It On the Mountain* ten years before it was published. Furthermore, he had picked up Allen Ginsberg on the New York subway ("At last it can be told") and had been picked up by Gore Vidal.

To the speaker's credit, his sense of self-importance was tempered by his sense of humor. Still, I couldn't help noticing that two of the writers he mentioned were dead and all were more famous than he. I was suddenly reminded of something my great-uncle used to say concerning people who bragged about their

ancestors: "They're like potatoes. The best part of 'em is underground."

The fascinating thing about my own conceit and that of others is that it is entirely pointless. Noted Michael Denny, an editor at St. Martin's Press (and the man everyone wanted to meet for purely selfish reasons), ironically, nobody even reads us. The number of gay and lesbian authors is increasing so rapidly that readers can't keep up.

Dangerous Trend

If this trend continues, Denny said, "The danger is that the only people who buy our books will be those who write them." Denny's proposal was that "we all pledge not to sleep with anybody who owns more records than they do books," although he acknowledged that this "might mean the end of sex in our time." It is a chance we may have to take.

Denny got a laugh, but I doubt that many in the audi-


ence appreciated what he had to say. Most were much more inclined to cheer for themselves and each other when one speaker noted that this was "the largest gathering of gay and lesbian writers in history!" It was that kind of conference, punctuated with cheers, applause and whistles.

No wonder, then, that people nodded in agreement when Barbara Grier of Naiad Press said, "You may laugh, but I truly believe that within the next five years, winning a Lammie [a Lambda Rising Book Award] will be every bit as important [to gay and lesbian writers] as winning a Pulitzer Prize."

Maybe so, but I remained skeptical. I may often make fun of myself to compensate for the size of my ego, but even I recognize that winning a Lammie or even a Pulitzer just won't do. I won't rest until I get the Nobel.

And you can quote me on that. ▼

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SCENE & HERD

Skating on 'Sin Ice'

by Dave Ford

Lamenting the potential loss of the San Francisco Ice Rink, the city's last ice palace, community leader Karen Wood enumerated in the March 17 *Chronicle* the dilapidated rink's attractions. Among them: "Teen-agers can swoop around feeling glamorous."

Ah, yes: the swoosh of gelidinous frolic!

Flies "Straight?"

Teen-agers swoop around looking glamorous in *Lord Of The Flies*, Columbia's mid-

dlebow remake of Peter Brook's 1963 film (of Sir Peter Golding's 1956 novel). The boys lurk around in tattered briefs and tote penile spears—a fact not lost on mainstream film critics in March 16 reviews.

Janet Maslin wrote in the *New York Times* that the film suggests "anyone about to be marooned on a desert island had better start off with a good haircut." It features a cast of young actors seemingly chosen on the basis of lean physique and languid good looks," she added. "They could just as easily, and perhaps more productively, be modeling designer denim."

Los Angeles Times critic Michael Wilmington also decried "what often seems to be faceless boy models."

Only the *San Francisco Examiner's* Michael "Michelle" Sragow plumbed the film's unprobed sexuality. He noted that a conversation in which the two lead boys discussed not "getting any" while they're marooned on the island "incites rather than defuses an audience's curiosity about what kind of sex life the pubescent ones see in their future."

(He failed to mention the conversation-capping wrestling bout—which is as homoterotically suggestive as the decidedly non-erotic film gets.)

For Sragow, "all the film has to offer is scantily clad, remarkably well-preserved boys posing in lush settings, without the erotic charge that someone like Bruce Weber might have brought to the imagery."

Head of the Class

Teen-agers also swoop around locker rooms feeling glamorous—and sometimes orally copulating each other.

A March 18 "Ask Beth" (*Chron*) correspondent was told by his coach to lock up after a shower. He and his team co-captain, "joking around, throwing soap and swatting each other with towels.... ended up fooling around sexually." He wondered if he's gay, and if "you [can] get a disease from oral sex with a male."

Unflappable, Beth reasonably responded that "many young people experiment with same-sex partners." Of "disease"—the young man's apparent code for AIDS—she wrote that "the germs and viruses that... cause disease thrive in the damp, moist mucous membranes" of the mouth, vagina and anus.

She neglected, however, to cite any AIDS-related oral sex statistics—a shame, since this confused young man, who "like(s) girls," apparently feared disease more than the stigma of being gay.

Better Safe Than Soiree

Too bad, too, because some of the teen-agers—and superannuated lads—swooping glamorously through San Francisco's various gay scenes could use some safe-sex reminders.

San Francisco Department of Health epidemiologist George Lemp told the March

18 *Chron* that although unsafe sex practices have diminished since 1987, a new survey has the department "very worried about a second epidemic" of HIV infection among 18-to-29 year old gay and bisexual men.

"There seems to be a myth among some young gay men that as long as they stay away from the older gays they will be all right," Lemp told the *Chron*. "There is no reason to believe this."

Boys? Remember safe sex? Good—practice it. We have enough to cope with without sabotaging ourselves.

Lowe High Last Year

Self-sabotage is a theme curiously missing from the suddenly high-profile actor Rob Lowe's rash of interviews peddling his new movie, *Bad Influence*.

Lowe didn't mention in the March *Interview*—or in any other press accounts I saw—the Atlanta debacle's curiously self-destructive nature. He spent the eve of the Democratic presidential convention—for which he was in Atlanta as, in his words, "an observer"—drunk, high on Ecstasy, and, later in the company of two women (one was underage).

After he passed out, the woman stole a videotape of their sexual three-way. With a fading movie career and an imminent stint as a political supporter at stake, Lowe seemed driven to harm himself. You wonder if he felt an unconscious desire to get caught.

Lowe did, however, let slip an intriguing bit of advice to *Interview*-reading press-watchers. "Read between the lines, folks, 'cause I'm here to tell you you're not getting the straight story. Ever."

Oh? Is there a queer story—Rob?

Hanger On

Whatever it is, you won't get it from comedian and actor Sandra Bernhard.

A couple of years ago she and pal Madonna stunned David Letterman viewers by insinuating they hung out at the Cubby Hole, a New York lesbian bar. Since then, Bernhard has played publicly cute—and evasive—about her sexuality.

She all but came out to Michael Musto in *Spin* last fall. But she danced around the question in a recent *Village Voice* piece. And she continued to dodge it in the March *Interview*.

The Letterman/Cubby Hole incident "was never something that was planned...." she said. "The whole lesbian thing being read into it was just stupid, ridiculous." Too bad she didn't add that lesbian sex isn't stupid, ridiculous; that it's generally hot, sweaty and funky.

To the suggestion that people know she's gay, Bernhard replied: "I don't think anybody thinks anything about me sexually." Wishful denial: appropriately or not, recent media queries (some gay) have focused on her sexuality.

Asked if being gay hurts a Hollywood career, Bernhard tellingly waffled: "Not if the



Rob Lowe

public loves you. I don't know. It probably does." Flustered, she added, "I just think that all this personal stuff is just a crock of shit anyway. Who cares? Everybody's gay." Huh?

In a perfect world, Bernhard's sexuality wouldn't matter. Nor would ours. But the world's imperfect. Therefore, clever, talented young stars who come out can inspire young gays struggling with their identities.

Better than than flapping the closet door to protect a career. In Bernhard's new, semi-autobiographical movie, she breaks up with a boyfriend—who's a hairdresser.



Madonna

Express Yourself (Ambiguously)

Bernhard's ersatz "girl friend," Madonna, also gently plays both sides of the fence.

In the April *Vanity Fair*, she said she and Bernhard "were just fucking with people.... Then it got out of hand...." Of a rumored liaison with actor Jennifer Brey, she said, "...it became a question of whatever female I had a close relationship with who is an outspoken girl... then I must be sleeping with her."

Reporter Kevin Sessums quoted a New York waitress who served Madonna: "She kept looking at me. Maybe just liked my outfit, but she was so obvious about it. Like it was a dare. Or something."

Again, it's sad Madonna—who has reciprocated gay support with numerous AIDS benefit performances—didn't just say that it doesn't matter whom she sleeps with, that love between any human being is a miracle.

It's also maddening. A recent New York trade mag insisted that "no wimps" apply as dancers for her upcoming national tour. Teenagers swoop around in her audience, feeling glamorous—and being implicitly oppressed. ▼

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Hate Crimes Soar In Bay Area

by Keith Clark

In Germany they came first for the communists, and I didn't speak up because I was not a communist. Then they came for the Jews and I didn't speak up because I was not a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then, they came for me and by that time, no one was left to speak up.

—Martin Niemöller

California is quickly becoming a hotbed of anti-black, anti-Semitic and homo-hating crimes, with San Francisco — "Everybody's Favorite City" — and the Bay Area a startling focal point for a disproportionate amount of it according to recently released studies of hate violence in America.

One report, "Hate Violence and White Supremacy," published in January by the Southern Poverty Law Center, cites 838 incidents of violence based on race, religion, ethnic background or sexual orientation between 1980 and 1989 in this country. The greatest number of these — 134 incidents representing 16 percent — took place in California, although the state accounts for just over 11 percent of the U.S. population.

Even more alarming, the Bay Area accounts for about 27 percent of the total hate-based incidents in California even though the San Francisco standard metropolitan area represents only about 14 percent of California's population.

Earlier this year Community United Against Violence also reported that during 1989 attacks against lesbians and gay men in the Bay Area increased an astounding 67 percent, including more than a doubling of attacks aimed at lesbians. And according to CUAV's statistics, some 10 percent of all these attacks involved some reference by the assailants to AIDS.

Experts offer a variety of explanations for the explosion of hate-motivated crimes in California and the Bay Area, ranging from a dramatic influx of immigrants, both ethnic and sexual, who are frequently the object of such crimes, to increasing activism of far-right fundamentalist and neo-Nazi organizations throughout the state.

And while few — perhaps no more than 5 percent — of the actual attacks on lesbians and gay men can be tied to members of neo-Nazi and other hate groups, most of them, experts agree, either overtly or covertly foment anti-lesbian/gay hatred in their newsletters and media propaganda, much of it playing on AIDS hysteria of the most vicious nature.

CUAV's Lester Olmstead-Rose said, "There is a very, very real concern around the kind of fear that hate groups try to put out there and try to create. And not just the fear, but also the propaganda background," creating a situation where people are marginalized ... which allows people to believe it's good or OK to assault others. That is ex-

tremely dangerous and hateful."

But even so, Olmstead-Rose emphasized that such hate groups are not the source of anti-lesbian/gay violence.

"If we could solve the problem of hate groups," he said, "we would still be left with a huge number of incidents of hate violence. The fact of the matter is that ... the hate groups are more of a symptom of the hatred than being a cause of the hatred."

WAR Storm Troopers

Perhaps the most notorious California neo-Nazi/Klan organization is the White Aryan Resistance, headed by Tom Metzger in Fallbrook, Calif. WAR has been extremely successful in recruiting skinheads and other proto-Nazi youths throughout the state.

While WAR's noxious hate campaigns might seem unlikely to flourish in the cool liberal air of the Bay Area, the WAR Aryan Youth Movement maintains a healthy chapter in San Francisco that runs a 24-hour telephone message line of carefully prepared scripts generously laced with gut-wrenching venom aimed at nearly every minority group imaginable.

The messages change from week to week and often teeter frighteningly on the edge of advocating violence against blacks, Jews, gays, Hispanics, Asians — although more vicious names for these groups are more typically used.

The following is an excerpt from a WAR's taped message that was running during the first week in February: "WAR has created a solution. We have formed a nation within a nation. We play by our own rules, which fall in accordance with Aryan instinctive survival. We know the real enemy of all races is the white traitor Zionist regime in Washington, not the average nigger on the corner or the disgusting faggot in the alley. Of course these undesirables of Pan-Aryanism will have to go also, but WAR does not wish to preoccupy itself with the system's cannon fodder. We'll stick to the source of the problem: white trash, like (President George) Bush."

WAR's newspaper, a crudely put-together amalgam of propaganda, paranoia and provocation, is even more ugly and overt.

A recent issue, for example, reported on "a broad coalition of homosexual groups [that] have begun a program for the relocation of AIDS patients from large urban hospitals to a system of AIDS clinics located in small towns in ... low profile areas of Middle America."

According to the WAR report, this relocation program is already under way and has been developed with the "knowledge and cooperation of city officials from several major urban areas."

Despite no one in the AIDS health services system ever having heard of such a scheme, WAR tells its readers, "The first area designated [for relocations] will cover a corridor 65 miles wide from



Lester Olmstead-Rose of Community United Against Violence speaking at a forum against lesbian/gay violence. (Photo: Rink)

North Carolina's western region (starting 38 miles above the South Carolina border) through South Carolina to a southern boundary 45 miles below the S.C. border in Northeast Georgia."

WAR cites no sources for its report about this relocation plan to the Blue Ridge Mountains deep in the Southern heartland of America because no such proposal exists — except perhaps in the fertile imagination of neo-Nazi propagandists whose aim is to in-

cite fear and loathing in mid-Americans over the prospect of thousands of people with AIDS being shipped into their quiet rural communities.

But it is in its editorial cartoons that WAR reaches a maliciousness that makes a phrase like "AIDS hysteria" entirely inadequate. One especially violent cartoon depicts uniformed storm-troopers equipped with gas-masks, flame-throwers and hand-grenades breaking into what appears to be an AIDS

hospital ward. One of the presumably "Aryan Warriors" is shown shooting a person with AIDS through the head as he lies in bed reading a book about Rock Hudson. Like most of WAR's propaganda, it is not the stuff for the weak in spirit.

Religious Supremacists

Unlike the overt violence fomented by groups like WAR, a different and seemingly more genteel sort of propaganda

(Continued on page 21)

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Gay Youth

(Continued from page 1)

seven years to deal with my homosexuality, but it's something new for them.

"They need my support to deal with this. I came out to my older sister first when I was 16, to my brother when I was 17, to another sister last year, and to my parents, last, in November.

"When I came out to my parents, I felt like I had no more secrets from my family anymore. But it's a process. There's always someone from the past to come out to."

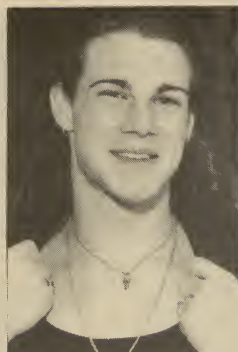
Eric: "I came out when I was a junior in high school. My parents sent me to a psychoanalyst. He was a quack, so I went to another one."

She told me, "Your parents want me to cure you of this. I'm not going to."

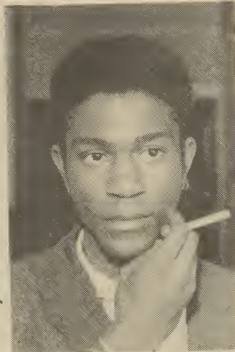
"I'm still financially dependent on my parents. My father said he would accept my homosexuality, but never understand it. But, I think that slowly, when we talk, he's understanding it, too.

"I've known I was gay since I was six years old. I was always the odd cat. My friends at school accepted my gayness, and they became better friends when I came out to them. I told my brother, who's 13. He was curious, 'What should I say if my friends ask?' 'I told him if he acts natural about it, then his friends will accept it, naturally.'

Erich: "I've lived in Monterey for the past seven years. I moved away because there's not much for a 17-year-old gay



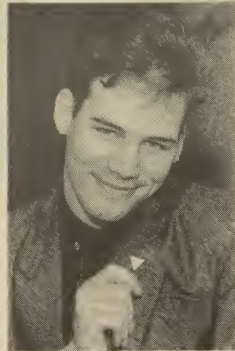
Eric Wohlgenuth



Malcolm McQuirter



Peter Milinazzo



Erich Van

boy to do there. The gay population in Monterey is very closeted. People say, 'We don't mind, just don't talk about it'.

"I had stress at home for being gay. There was no outlet for me. There were two gay AA meetings per week there. I met good friends there. One became my sponsor. In

Monterey, I had very few places to turn to. I tried to look to myself to care of emotional stress."

On Life in the City

Erich: "Talking is how I survive. Every chance I get, I get involved in gay associations. There's not much for

kids 18 and under to do in the city. I'm strongly supportive of LYRIC (The Lavender Youth Recreation Center). I like the idea of peer counseling—one gay person helping another. AA is one alcoholic helping another, saying, 'I know where you're at. This is what worked for me.'

"I need to have people my own age, gay kids around me. LYRIC is a structured environment. It gives kids a foundation to build on whether they have a home or they're on the street. With that building block to grow on, we don't have to reach out to someone inappropriate—like in a bar or on the street. LYRIC is the only non-residence, non-therapy, free, ongoing, youth group-counseling situation in the city.

Richard: "I don't like the dating scene. Gay boys are such flakes. I've learned to be more cynical. Looks don't count much for me anymore. I've had bad luck on my last five dating experiences.

Cute guys have tremendous attitude. The extraordinarily beautiful people won't give you the time of day. The gay community is too superficial. They could be a lot more understanding to newcomers. All these beauties going after each other with their nails. They're wrapped up in their own vanity. Vanity kills."

Malcolm: "I dislike the cliquishness and arrogance. Everything is already established. Everyone knows each other. I don't like the isolationism of the gays and all the ethnic groups in San Francisco. Gays over here, blacks over there. Latinos over there.

"We're all working for the same thing. There's so much homophobia in the black community and racism in the gay community. If we just had more unity we'd get a lot more done."

Eric: "I'm the only out gay person in the dorms at USF. I sometimes hear people talk about 'the gay boy.' I've walked through the dorm and across campus in drag. I think it's sobering for them to see an out gay man because they're closeted. They ignore the city around them.

"Other gays are frightened. I saw a dorm mate at a gay club and he was really friendly. But, later, back on campus, he refused to acknowledge where he saw me."

On the Future

Peter: I haven't found my niche yet. I'm making roots. I want to be a counselor, teacher or social worker. I want to make a contribution to the community. I played soccer for eight years in school, but quit, because I didn't like playing with straight guys my age. I'd like to get involved again. I'm applying to the CUAV Speaker's Bureau because I'd like to go back to my high school in Fremont and tell them that I'm OK now, and that I'm proud to be gay.

Erich: "I hope within six months to go back to my high school, where I was in the closet completely, and tell them what happened to me. I know it can be done. I can relate to my roommates in our Hospitality House apartment because we all come from the streets. Also, we're all trying to do something with our lives, trying to get back on track and build our foundations.

"At home, a friend committed suicide. He was bisexual. He didn't want people to find

out, so he blew his brains out. Since then, I realized that if I stayed in the closet, I'd end up the same way. Because of him, I'm trying to be a gay activist for youth."

Richard: "The openness in San Francisco has made it easier for me to go after my personal ambitions. I want to be extremely creative in the business world—probably architecture. That's what I'm studying at City College."

Peter: I feel good about making a contribution at Project Open Hand once a week. They're an incredible bunch of people. The first protest I went to was the Proposition 96 and 102 deal at City Hall. I thought, this is so scattered. It should have been more clear. People should know what they're protesting against."

Gratitude

Richard: The thing I like best about San Francisco is the openness. Gay people have more friends than straight people. That's why everyone knows each other. Everyone's circle of friends is huge, eventually. I would have had to be here to really understand what they (the older gay community) went through. But, I can be thankful.

Erich: When I came to San Francisco, I called a switchboard that told me about the Larkin Street Youth Center. Larkin Street told me about the Diamond Youth Shelter, who got me set up at Hospitality House. Larkin Street got me a job the second day I was here. My case manager at HH is a gay man who can relate to me. He's someone I can look up to—an adult who understands me. My counselor at Diamond Street is openly gay. He told me about the Gay Youth Rap Group at MCC. I was ecstatic. Ever since I knew I was gay, when I was about 14 or 15, I've been looking for support. LYRIC was a godsend."

Malcolm: "The thing I like best about San Francisco is the freedom. I've gotten used to the freedom fast. I do take it for granted to some extent. I don't think about it until I read that they're executing homosexuals in Iran and then I think, 'Oh yeah, it's not like this everywhere.' It's a reality check for me."

Eric: "When I got here I was like a kid in a candy store. I learned about the city by just walking round a lot, meeting people, talking to them. I learned a lot about Stonewall and the White Night Riot at the last Gay Parade, my first."

When I moved here, my friends asked if I would do drag. I told them I didn't have a need to express my sexuality that way. But, now I do it because it's fun, not to make a statement. San Francisco has been a series of learning experiences. I'm glad I tried drag because now I like it. The general atmosphere here is accepting. There's always a few people who will say 'right on!' for doing drag."

J-Me: "I call myself a fag. I like the punk fag clubs. I walk around in the Mission with make-up, dressed however I like. I'd rather have people think negative thoughts about the way I act and dress, than to be in the closet. I hate having to explain myself, so I just swing my hips, snap my fingers and party from the start. I'd rather have there be no question that I'm a fag."

Peter: "I was 16 the first

(Continued on page 16)

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Southern Exposure, Frameline Scrutinized

by Keith Clark

Thousands of artists this year, including lesbian/gay arts groups, are being required by the federal government to sign non-obscenity pledges before they can get federal arts funding in what constitutional scholars say is the first case of restrictions on such funding based on content.

Many artists say it amounts to censorship and they fear further government efforts to block controversial subjects in their art.

The new National Endowment for the Arts agreement requires that "none of the funds may be used to promote, disseminate or produce materials which in the judgment of the National Endowment for the Arts may be considered obscene..." and especially works that include "depictions of sadomasochism, homoeroticism, the sexual exploitation of children or individuals engaged in sex acts and which, when taken as a whole, do not have serious literary, artistic, political or scientific merit."

Like a lot of others this year, Frameline, the producers of the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, will also be one of the 4,000-plus organizations and individuals required to sign NEA's new non-obscenity agreement in exchange for its \$9,000 grant in January.

Frameline Executive Director Tom DiMaria said, however, that he had not yet received either the NEA check or the anti-pornography agreement.

"We received our award notification in January; we have not yet received our check. But in our award notification there was a note to see the new guidelines for grant recipients, and in those guidelines was a text of the Helms amendment... that our attention was called to," he said.

DiMaria also said of the new NEA anti-obscenity agreement, "Yes, I would sign that because I feel that our works as a whole do have serious literary, artistic, political and scientific value. So I don't have a problem with that."

How the NEA agreement might affect which films Frameline picks to show in the prestigious San Francisco Festival is at least clearer than the 1973 Supreme Court definition of obscenity on which the NEA language is itself based.

DiMaria called the Helms amendment requiring the NEA agreement a "Big Brother environment," which forces artists to "look over their shoulder every time they go to make a programmatic decision about whether someone's going to hold up a catalog on the Senate floor."

But DiMaria insisted that "Our Board of Directors has in effect a no-censorship policy. We will not censor, alter, or edit any of the works that we show. We will not make programmatic decisions based on fear of losing funding.... The search committee will make its decisions on what's shown in the Festival completely independent of the NEA. If we lose funding in the future we'll

deal with that as an administrative fund-raising issue, not as a programmatic issue."

But the Festival, which in the past has shown films with explicit gay sex scenes like Frank Ripploh's *Taxi Zum Klo*, and gay erotic films such as the masturbatory fantasy, *Loads*, *The Deep Frontier* (about fisting) and the self-explanatory *Robert Having His Nipple Pierced*, can hardly escape the political pressures on the arts that are being mounted by Sens. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) and Alfonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.) and U.S. Reps. Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.), and Dick Armey (R-Texas).

Son of Helms'

U.S. Rep. Rohrabacher, for example, recently criticized the San Francisco art gallery, Southern Exposure, which received a \$5,000 NEA grant last year, for an exhibit that included videos on bondage and genital piercing.

It may only be a short step from the kinds of videos shown in the Southern Exposure exhibit, *Modern Primitives*, to Frameline's *Robert Having His Nipple Pierced*. And it is a short step that Rohrabacher is apparently considering taking.

Greg Waddell, Rohrabacher's press spokesman, acknowledged March 12 that in fact the congressman had already received "background material on the Lesbian and Gay Film Festival" that he is also "concerned about" although Waddell said Rohrabacher isn't yet sure which NEA grants he wants to "go public with."

In addition, both the Southern Exposure gallery and Frameline's Film Festival were targeted in a Feb. 13 advertisement in the *Washington Times* and paid for by the right-wing American Family Association as inappropriate NEA grant recipients because of material they've shown.

Whatever Rohrabacher decides to "go public with" about Frameline, however, may be somewhat wide of the mark.

Frameline's DiMaria said, "There was a change in our NEA grant status this year in that we applied for assistance for the Festival and we received the grant for administrative support for Frameline. So in essence the NEA is not directly funding the International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival."

Rohrabacher has recently adopted the tactic of circulating "Dear Colleague" letters to his fellow representatives and senators to attack NEA grants for a performance art work that he said contained sexually provocative materials and for an art exhibit with "offensive" religious material.

Rohrabacher's strategy has been dismissed as "headline grand-standing" by his critics and has earned him the nickname, "Son of Helms." But it is also keeping the political heat on the NEA and making some artists wonder who'll be next in what's been dubbed "Maplethorpe" — the arts story that won't die — an allusion to the

late photographer Robert Mapplethorpe.

It was, of course, the Mapplethorpe exhibit last summer and the outrage of Helms and some of his congressional colleagues regarding the fact that federal funds helped pay for the exhibit that led to the anti-obscenity guidelines that the NEA must now try somehow to enforce.

The issue, of course, really isn't what's obscene and what isn't. As NEA Chairman John Frohnmayer said in October when he took the helm of the beleaguered federal arts agency, "I think the lesson from all this is that we do live in a political realm, and you forget that at your own peril."

The politicizing of art that has been so roundly denounced by academicians and artists alike, however, is anything but new. From Aristotle and the ancient Athenians down to Helms and the modern Mapplethorpe, art has always been a political plaything one way or another.

The revolution wrought in music by Beethoven, for example, had to do as much with his rejection of the patronage of the aristocracy in favor of popular ticket sales as with music theory. The difference in the current eruption is that so much of it seems to smack of a particular moral code wrapped in the banner of a



Robert Mapplethorpe

specific political viewpoint — conservatives in the Republican Party.

Aside from the Helms-D'Amato-Rohrabacher-Army foot soldiers in Congress, under Lee Atwater's take-no-prisoners chairmanship, the RNC has been busy faxing and mailing press releases reading "[your] Congressman voted to continue the NEA's practice of using their District's taxpayers' hard-earned money to underwrite this kind of ... taxpayer-financed obscenity."

Artistic Warts

NEA officials are trying to walk a very thin line between their new legal obligation to enforce the unasked-for law on

the one hand and the general perception that artistic freedom must be maintained.

"Our stand is: Don't let this intimidate you; feel free to create as you wish," said NEA spokeswoman Virginia Falck. "When you're funding creativity, you've got to allow room for people to do all kinds of things — warts and all."

Even NEA's newly appointed chairman doesn't think much of Helms' anti-obscenity amendment that passed Congress last year.

"I'm obligated to obey the law," Frohnmayer said, "but I do think that the statute is unnecessary."

(Continued on page 16)

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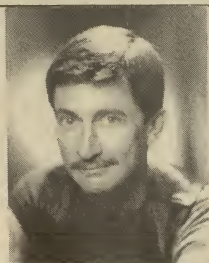
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Western Union

(Continued from page 1)

said Joe Cabush, administrative assistant with HRCF's "Speak Out" program.

The Western Union challenge to the San Francisco civil rights ordinance stems from a discrimination lawsuit brought last year by Armand Ertag who charged that his supervisor at ITT Worldcom, where he had worked for 13 years, began a "systematic campaign of harassment and intimidation" against him because Ertag is gay shortly after Western Union acquired ITT Worldcom.

In defending itself, Western Union's attorneys have argued

that the city's gay rights ordinance is pre-empted by California law and that no such sexual-orientation protection exists at the state level.

Western Union is also claiming that even if the City ordinance is valid, it does not authorize monetary damage lawsuits by individuals.

"The cities and counties are to keep, their noses out of the discrimination law area in employment," Western Union attorney John Cook said following the conclusion of the case.

The suit involving AT&T stems from the refusal of the telephone long distance carrier to relocate two men who are lovers, John McComb and Tom Fawcett, like the firm does with other families when they were transferred.

McComb said after the clos-

ing arguments in court, "We were told they (AT&T) couldn't move us together because it didn't look good for the company to move two men together."

Superior Court Judge Ira Brown on Tuesday, March 20, heard concluding arguments in the case and is expected to issue a ruling within the next few weeks.

Lesbian and gay civil rights advocates have said the outcome of the Western Union-Ertag lawsuit could effectively gut not only San Francisco's rights ordinance but also invalidate similar laws in cities and counties throughout California as well as set the stage for a "domino effect" around the country. A final decision could take years because both sides are expected to appeal Judge Brown's ruling. ▼



Celebrating

Empress XIV, Ginger the Spice Empress, at her 69th birthday party. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Art

(Continued from page 15)

And at House Education and Labor subcommittee hearings on NEA's congressional funding extension he laid down the gauntlet before NEA opponents in saying, "It is a commentary on the strength and wisdom of a government which supports the arts without content restraints."

Frohnmayr also noted that in each of the six legislative reauthorization hearings during the agency's 25-year history a debate of one kind or another has materialized over federal funding of the arts.

But he quickly pointed out that of the agency's some 85,000 grants during its quarter-century of operation only 22 grants — one-quarter of one-tenth of a percent — have actually become public controversies, a record Frohnmayr called "astoundingly good."

As further evidence of NEA's reluctance to tackle an issue that even the Supreme Court itself has never fully or satisfactorily resolved, Falck also said the agency has so far been unable to develop any procedures to monitor its new anti-obscenity policy.

The agency awards an average of about 3,500 grants annually — the bulk of them to organizations like Frameline and Southern Exposure which in turn present hundreds of individual artists during the course of any given year. The

bureaucratic task of such monitoring alone is staggering.

Things Could Get Worse

Some experts believe the legal guidelines pose no actual threat to artistic freedom for now since the NEA anti-obscenity language is more or less a literal reading of the Supreme Court's definition of obscenity which is already legally enforceable anyway.

But the arts community believes that just the hint of government interference is enough to chill the artistic spirit and that this may well be only the first step in a long series of such restrictions.

"I'm concerned by the tone," said Martha Collins who directs the University of Massachusetts creative writing program, "concerned that

things could get worse instead of better."

Although the arts community will lobby to have the guideline exorcised from next year's budget, some 4,000 artists and arts groups, including Frameline, have agreed to abide by it for now — sort of.

Jack Duncan of the New York City-based American Council for the Arts said last year when the Mapplethorpe flap erupted on the Senate floor, "Even if we're able to get this language removed, is the mind-set [of self-censorship] already there? Are people scared to make choices? Have we created an atmosphere where people are going to be cowed into doing what these people [Helms and other conservatives] want without any further legislative moves? That's the scary part."

Youth

(Continued from page 14)

time I went to the gay youth group at the Pacific Center in Berkeley. It took guts and time to go there. A high school teacher told me about it. I was only out to female friends in high school. It was the first time I'd done anything gay. It was nice to not feel like I had anything to hide anymore. It was basically a big weight off my shoulders.

Editor's Note: The Gay Rap Group, sponsored by LYRIC, meets at Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St., on Friday evenings from 7-9 p.m. ▼

Chamberlain

(Continued from page 1)

has begun donating 10 per cent of his income to AIDS research. Although Chamberlain has tested HIV-negative, his former lover, John Allison, died of AIDS complications in 1986.

Elizabeth Taylor told *Nous Deux* she was pleased Chamberlain had come out and hoped it would encourage other Hollywood stars to follow suit.

Calls and faxes to Chamberlain's Hollywood publicists were not returned. ▼

International News Summary

Australia

A five-year-old immigration law here that allowed gays and lesbians to bring their foreign lovers to live with them has been suspended, according to the Gay and Lesbian Immigration Task Force.

In addition, a new law requires HIV testing for everyone seeking a long-term visa and excludes anyone who tests positive.

In the wake of the crack-down, some people who have been in Australia illegally for years have been forced to leave, including some gay spouses. GLTF convener Richard Gibbons called the new moves "the biggest setback to date to our continuing efforts to win human rights and equality." He urged anyone planning to come from overseas to live with his or her Australian partner to "stay put for the moment" and write to the Task Force at GPO Box 415, Sydney 2001 NSW.

Canada

The Canadian AIDS Society has joined the boycott of the Sixth International Conference on AIDS, to be held June 20-24 in San Francisco, because of the U.S. policy requiring HIV-positives to receive "HIV waivers."

"We are not happy about missing out on an important international conference," said Executive Director Richard Burzynski, "but... American policy prevents many people with AIDS or HIV from attending a conference which is going to discuss issues which directly impact on them. This is simply not acceptable."

CAS also called on the Canadian government to boycott the gathering.

Denmark

Convening in Copenhagen Feb. 17-18, delegates to the First European Conference on

HIV and Homosexuality signed onto the growing boycott of the Sixth International Conference on AIDS to be held June 20-24 in San Francisco.

The 200 delegates join numerous AIDS organizations, scientists and government officials from Europe, Canada, Australia and the U.S. in boycotting the gathering to protest U.S. immigration policies that require HIV-positive foreigners to receive an "HIV Waiver" before entering the country.

The Copenhagen conference was subtitled "Re-Gaying HIV," in recognition of the fact that the "AIDS establishment" is rapidly gaining control of the AIDS organizations founded and nurtured by homosexuals.

Germany

East German gay men have formed a national association to fight for their rights and demand reparations for gay victims of Nazi persecution, according to the official ADN news agency.

At the inaugural meeting of the Schwulenverband der DDR (Gay Association of East

Germany), members called for gay partnerships and marriages to be recognized and for the legalization of gay adoption.

The association also demanded the right to publish literature, and monetary compensation to gays tortured by the Third Reich.

According to Reuters, "this month East Germany boke a 40-year silence to disclose that thousands of homosexuals were slaughtered by the Nazis in World War II."

Germany

The Names Project quilt put in an appearance at West Berlin City Hall during February's 40th Berlin International Film Festival. A few panels were also displayed in the windows of KaDeWe, Berlin's largest department store. *Common Threads: Stories From the Quilt*, an acclaimed feature documentary was included in the festival.

Germany

The International Lesbian and Gay Association has written to East German Prime Minister Hans Modrow com-

plaining that condoms are only available through the mail and that lubricants are for sale only at hospitals.

"Condoms should be available in supermarkets and other places where they can be easily purchased without fear, especially by young people," ILGA urged. "[Water-based] lubricants should also be easily available since condoms are often not used [in East Germany] because lubricants can currently only be bought in hospitals."

ILGA urged Modrow to implement plans put forth by the Sonntags-Club in East Berlin and by Health Minister Thielemann and Minister of the Economy Christa Luft.

Italy

A new survey by the LISPES research institute of 1,743 gay men and 301 lesbians found that half of them are in a "couple" relationship and more than 90 percent believe such a relationship is the "best" option.

Fifty-one percent of the couples said they were monogamous, while 11 percent of the total respondents had had at least 400 sexual partners.

The questionnaires were distributed throughout Italy to people between 20 and

50-years-old who have a secondary degree and are attentive to social problems.

Romania

A clandestine gay group has formed at the University of Bucharest, according to Calle Almedal, an employee of the Norwegian Red Cross who just returned from a fact-finding mission.

The group reportedly made itself known by sending a letter to Romanian television, demanding that the station air programs on homosexuality and work to overturn the country's sodomy law.

Almedal said Romanian gay men presently meet each other in major hotels, a process he described as "not particularly difficult."

Meanwhile, health officials fear that Romania's widely reported childhood AIDS epidemic will explode into the adult population within the year.

Authorities say the port city of Constanta will be the epicenter of the epidemic because prostitutes there service sailors from all over the world and also service local men, who are required by law to donate blood, which is not screened for HIV. ▼

Memorial Set For Belskus

A memorial gathering for John Belskus, a founder of the ARC/AIDS Vigil and Citizens for Medical Justice and a long-time proponent of national health care, will be held on Sunday, March 25 at 2 p.m. at 522 Valencia Street (near 16th).

Friends and fellow activists will join together in commemoration of John's life, his dedication to progressive causes and his friendship. Hosting the gathering is the Communist Party USA, of which John was a member. Music and light refreshments will be provided, as well as an opportunity for people to share memories of John and his commitment to our community.

One of John's last requests was that a march be held calling attention to the need for national health care. Accordingly, such a march will be held in John's honor on Sunday, Sep. 2 in San Francisco.

For more information regarding the memorial gathering or the march, call John's friend and partner of four years, Frank Richter at 771-4688. ▼



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Australia's Mardi Gras Takes on Gay Pride Flavor

by Brad Evans

The party to beat all parties is the annual gay and lesbian Mardi Gras in Sydney, Australia. Celebrating its 12th year on Feb. 18, the big bash attracts several hundred thousand to its parade down the main streets, and about 16,000 partiers to the dance extravaganza.

As the Mardi Gras's reputation has grown in the past few years, thousands of gays and lesbians arrive from neighboring New Zealand, and as far away as Europe and the United States for the affair.

Much like the Stonewall Riots, Sydney's first Mardi Gras was forged in the crucible of gay and lesbian struggles, with 1,000 people moving down Oxford Street in celebration of Gay Solidarity Day on June 24, 1978.

With the cry of "Out of the bars and into the street!" it ended at a police blockade and

riots in Darlinghurst Road with 53 arrests. The arrests sparked a campaign for the right of gays and lesbians to march. By the next year the right to demonstrate was written into law and the second Mardi Gras took place, many in fancy dress and costume. The tradition was born.

In the ensuing years the parade date was moved from wintry June to February. The warmer weather and depoliticization of the Mardi Gras attracted larger and larger crowds until it became Australia's only nighttime and largest parade.

Similar to our gay and lesbian pride week, the month-long schedule of activities includes more than 60 artistic, cultural and sporting events, culminating with the parade and dance on Feb. 17.

Following a lull in Sydney's wettest month in recorded hi-

story, this year's parade day broke promising and sunny. As in previous years, a number of Christian fundamentalists prayed for rain as a sign of God's disdain for the event. By evening the skies loomed heavy with clouds. As the parade set off, thunder and lightning, rain and wind swept through the streets, dampening the feathers and leather of the assembled crowds but not the high spirits. Despite the storm, gays and lesbians were determined to enjoy the sights of the 70 or so passing floats and contingents.

At the Royal Academy Showgrounds the dance party carried 16,000 ticket holders through the night until 10 a.m. the following morning. Australians are notorious partiers, and you might have thought you were at Dreamland or the Saint, circa 1979. Every two hours different shows and atmospheric effects thrilled the crowd. At midnight, lasers traced aboriginal



Bill Strubbe of San Francisco with fans.

(Photo: Brad Evans)

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snakes on the wall, smoke and indoor fireworks surprised the jubilant dancers. At 2 a.m., an artificial snow storm and blizzard surprised the jubilant dancers. At 4 a.m., dozens of scantily clad men and women in an erotic, tightly choreographed number elicited deafening cheers.

Sydney's warm and balmy climate, the numerous beaches and bays, bars and discos, cultural and sight-seeing attractions make the Mardi Gras a perfect focus of a several-week vacation to the land Down-Under.

Sydney boasts half a dozen beaches frequented by gays, with Lady Jane's and Obelisk beaches being suits-optional venues.

Australians are generous, friendly, affable, pleased to meet foreigners, but rather disdainful of ethnocentric Americans trying to impose their way of life on everyone else in the world. Aussies love their cigarettes (90 percent of the men smoke) and drink—beer being the substance of choice. Don't be surprised to see your new found "mates" downing 10 or 12—even 15—beers a night, still standing and carrying on a coherent conversation. Down Under, beer is a basic commodity—I daresay, a way of life.



Mr. San Francisco Leather Peter Austin samples the Aussie men.

(Photo: Brad Evans)

National Briefs

Gays Win Rent Protection in N.Y.

A New York appellate court has ruled that surviving gay life partners must be protected from eviction from rent-stabilized apartments in New York City. The decision from the Appellate Division, First Department, in Manhattan, extends the July 1989, New York Court of Appeals in *Braschi v. Stahl Associates* to rent stabilized apartments. In *Braschi*, the state's highest court had ruled that a gay couple was the legal equivalent of a family for the purpose of protection from eviction from a rent controlled family. The case decided by the Appellate Division, *East 10th Street Associates v. Estate of Stuart Goldstein*, involved a relationship between two gay men that had lasted for more than 14 years. Goldstein, the deceased tenant, and Robert Wells, his life partner met in 1973 and moved into the apartment in question together in 1977. Only Goldstein's name was on the lease. When Goldstein died of AIDS in October, 1987, the building moved to evict Wells. In ruling in Wells favor, the Appellate Division cited the *Braschi* case stating that, "It would be anomalous to hold that a life partner could be a valid family member for the purpose of protection from eviction from a rent-controlled apartment but not a valid member insofar as eviction from a rent-stabilized apartment is concerned."

Jail Visitation Rights Ordered

The ACLU won a ruling in federal court on March 14 ordering a Pennsylvania county jail to end the policy under which it had denied a lesbian inmate's request that her lover be allowed to visit her. The warden had refused to allow the inmate visitation with her lover because, as the warden said in denying the visitation request, the prison "can't condone such relationships." The ACLU challenged the practice as a denial of the lesbian inmate's rights under the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. A federal judge in western Pennsylvania issued an injunction declaring the policy unconstitutional and enjoining the county from denying the plaintiff visitation with her lover.

Fort Lauderdale Magazine Sued

A Chicago model is suing a Miami gay entertainment magazine for libel after his photograph appeared on the magazine's cover without his permission. Thirty-year-old Norman Lippiatt filed suit in Cook County Circuit Court March 6, saying he was "outraged" and concerned that the incident would adversely affect his career. "I have nothing against gays, but I'm strictly hetero myself," Lippiatt told the *Chicago Sun Times*. Lippiatt has reportedly appeared in such publications as *Sports Illustrated* and *Gentlemen's Quarterly*. His lawyer, William Gomolinski, said the *Hot Shots* photo was bootlegged from a boating magazine. It shows Lippiatt clad in blue jeans and leaning against a wall. In planning the photo on its cover, *Hot Shots* also indicated that Lippiatt would greet readers at a gay roller skating party at the Gold Coast Skating Rink. The lawsuit names both *Hot Shots* and the rink, according to the Cook County Circuit Court Clerk. *Hot Shots* publisher Jason Bell said the photo was published a year or two ago and was provided by the skating rink. The rink denies providing the photo.—Rex Wockner

Chicago Gay Publication Burglarized

The office of *Chicago Outlines*, a monthly newsmagazine for the gay and lesbian community, was cleaned out by burglars early the morning of March 18. According to Publisher Terry Baim, the thieves made off with three Macintosh computers, a stretch screen for desktop publishing, a laser printer, a fax machine, a television, a stereo and other electronic items. *Outlines* was fully insured and has begun replacing the equipment. The most significant loss was information stored on the hard disks of the computers—such as lists of bars and community organizations, advertising copy, graphics and other material that appears in each issue of the newspaper. There is no indication that the burglary was motivated by either anti-gay prejudice or business rivalry. An expensive stat camera that is too large to steal was not damaged and important information stored in file cabinets was not disturbed. At press time, Baim promised that both *Outlines* and *Nightlines* would appear as scheduled on March 28.

—Rex Wockner

AIDS Conference Volunteers Sought

The Sixth International Conference on AIDS, to be held in San Francisco June 20-24, is looking for San Franciscans willing to devote volunteer time or host a conference delegate in their home. The International AIDS Conference is the premier annual meeting at which scientists and AIDS service providers from throughout the world gather to discuss new advances in the science of AIDS, and work to improve the global response to AIDS. The conference will attract more than 15,000 delegates. Volunteers are needed to perform a range of important tasks to assure that this meeting achieves its goal of helping to advance the fight against AIDS. The conference hopes to show off the hospitality of San Francisco residents, and their commitment to fight against AIDS, by asking city residents to sign up to have a conference delegate stay in their home at no charge from June 19-24. This delegate host program will enable hundreds of individuals otherwise unable to attend the conference to come and learn ways to strengthen AIDS programs in their cities, states and countries. People interested in either volunteering time for the conference or hosting a delegate in their home should contact the conference organizing office at (415) 951-1990.

Post Office

(Continued from page 3)

her fingers in his face. Among other things, the clerk allegedly said that "You fucking faggots are exerting too much..."

He couldn't hear the rest of the slur.

Fiumara said that the clerk screamed for security and blocked his exit. When the security guards arrived they too refused to let him leave, saying that he was trespassing. Fiumara said he wasn't aware of that because there were no signs posted. He said he thought he was entering at the behest of a clerk.

Fiumara was detained for an hour, not allowed to call an attorney or use the telephone. Finally, the guards got a phone call saying that the USPS had decided not to press charges against him for trespassing or disturbing the peace. Fiumara left, shaken and abused, clutching the package he had come to claim.

Supervisor Harry Britt's office is investigating the incident. Slurs about sexual orientation are illegal under the provisions of the city's Human Rights Ordinance.

Box

(Continued from page 3)

straight people here. People brought their straight friends but what happened is people started coming here who are not part of the community. They didn't know any gay people. They just came in to stand and stare and that is what we objected to. The main thing about The Box is that everybody feels comfortable here."

"We didn't want to do anything to create antagonism between gay and straight people," she said. "If there was a problem in here with straight people, it had to be treated very delicately."

Another recent source of controversy for Hodel has been the social mix at Friday night's Club Q, which is primarily a dance club for lesbians.

Some lesbian patrons had complained about the presence of men in the club. But Hodel said that much of the tension had eased.

"Women are bringing their male friends and it is working out OK. We have made a statement that we would like to make it a women's space and not become a men's space."

AZT

(Continued from page 1)

person handling the HIV infection market research for Burroughs-Wellcome, the call was transferred to Ketterer.

"Burroughs-Wellcome is the lowest of the lowest. They're really profiteering scumbags," said Paul Boneberg, co-chair of Mobilization Against AIDS.

"Support testing as a way of getting into treatment, and MAA believes that people should be tested if they believe they are infected. Knowing that you are positive, you can get early intervention."

"But Burroughs-Wellcome should give their ill-gotten gains to a credible group that will encourage testing. They shouldn't do it. They should give the money to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation."

Thanks but no thanks, said Pat Christen, SFAF executive director.

"We have problems with what they've done with the price of AZT. But, it's an interesting question. If you believe that getting the information out is important, is it OK that Burroughs pays for that message?"

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Sara Diamond says there are far greater threats than the fundamentalists' arguments.

(Photo: Gerhart)

Hate Crimes

(Continued from page 13)

da campaign is conducted by various representatives of the radical fundamentalist movement — what Ken McPherson, co-chair of Mobilization Against AIDS, has aptly termed “the religious supremacists” — throughout California and elsewhere around the country.

In the January 1990 issue of the “Traditional Values Report,” published by Lou Sheldon’s extremist Traditional Values Coalition of Anaheim, Calif., it is reported that three pro-choice activists convicted of disturbing the peace at an Operation Rescue meeting at the Melodyland Christian Center were members of ACT UP/LA.

“Is this the type of action we can expect,” the TVC newsletter asks, “from people who are unafraid of a jail sentence because they won’t be alive to serve it out?”

Another recent TVC publication, *SHAPE* (Stop Homosexual Advocacy in Public Education), published a piece under the title, “The Homosexual Agenda,” that claims (in part) that homosexuals intend to “sodomize your sons ... seduce them in your schools, in your dormitories, in your gymnasiums ... wherever men are with men together.”

The piece also says that gays will murder and defile the corpses of heterosexuals who call them names, “eliminate heterosexual liaisons,” “raise vast, private armies ... to defeat you,” abolish the family unit, close all churches opposed to homosexuality, “rewrite history,” and put on trial in “homosexual courts of justice” any man “contaminated with heterosexual lust.”

The amazing piece of homophobic propaganda concludes that gays “are capable of firing guns and manning the barricades of the ultimate revolution.”

“What I find fascinating,” McPherson said, “is that all those premises aren’t based on fact; no one is out there suggesting these things. They simply assume that because they hate gay people that gay people must believe 180 degrees from what they believe. They are projecting their agenda onto us in a mirror image. We don’t really give a damn whether they like homosexuals. All we care about is that they stop trying to push their

lousy morality into our faces in terms of laws and so on.”

At a more abstract, theological level, in his 1987 book, *Power in the Blood: A Christian Response to AIDS*, author David Chilton argues that AIDS is God’s punishment not merely against homosexuals — a well-worn fundamentalist canard — but also against the larger society because it has tolerated “perversion.”

In an odd twist on the collective-guilt theme, Chilton quotes one of the religious right’s leading theologians, R. J. Rushdoony: “Wherever a society refuses to exact the required death penalty, there God exacts the death penalty on that society... Every state and every society thus faces a choice: to sentence to death those who deserve to die, or to die themselves.”

Author Sara Diamond, in her book, *Spiritual Warfare*, cites the Chilton-Rushdoony argument as being far more dangerous than the usual fundamentalist AIDS-as-God’s-punishment-of-gays idea because it leads to the conclusion that “the church must become the solution to AIDS, not just in terms of pressing for testing or even quarantining of gays, but in terms of massive action to stop non-monogamous, non-heterosexual activity in its entirety.”

It is rapidly becoming, in fact, not just the position of the “lunatic fringe” element of the religious right but of the far more influential and popular fundamentalist-conservative religious establishment as well.

At the realpolitik level Rushdoony’s “reconstructionist” theology provides the entire fundamentalist right a compelling rationale for the kinds of growing grassroots activism demonstrated by groups like Operation Rescue, the Traditional Values Coalition and the American Family Alliance.

At a more chilling philosophical level Rushdoony and his followers are in fact calling for a return to strict Old Testament law where death by stoning was the common way of punishing all sorts of transgressions — including, of course, sodomy.

Dr. Paul Cameron, expelled from the American Psychological Association in 1983 for violations of its code of ethics, in a 1987 appearance on the Family Christian Broadcasting Network of Concord, Calif., offered his idea of a solution to the AIDS epidemic.

“Think of Thomas Jefferson,

one of the most liberal thinkers in the Western world. He said in a considered statement that [male] homosexuals ought to be castrated. He said that homosexual females ought to have a one-inch hole drilled through the cartilage of their nose.”

In January two Indiana legislators, one with strong connections to the fundamentalist right, introduced a bill that would let convicted male sex offenders be punished by castration and female sex offenders by removal of the ovaries.

And on Feb. 12 of this year a similar law, strongly supported by local fundamentalist groups, actually passed the Washington Senate by a vote of 25-23 and has been sent to the House.

Repeating History

The difference between the overt homo-hating campaign of neo-Nazi groups like WAR and the fundamentalist right’s more theological (and therefore seemingly more civilized) anti-homosexual war doesn’t impress many activists.

Olmstead-Rose said, “It makes sense to me, in a very perverse way, that somebody who hears that message [of hate] their whole life goes out and beats people up because he’s been told they’re bad, they’re marginal, they’re evil, they’re sinful, they’re bringing the end of Western Civilization. I think we need to start holding churches and schools and legislatures and legislators and entertainers to account for that because they contribute to the overall climate of fear and hatred that gives rise to the violence. It’s a different forum, it’s accepted by different people, but it’s still part of the propaganda background of violence.”

Mobilization’s McPherson emphasizes the need both for general community response in fighting the anti-lesbian/gay hate campaigns, the necessity for building coalitions with other anti-violence, anti-fascist organizations, as well as getting across to the larger, heterosexual society that the extremist right’s anti-homosexual agenda doesn’t stop with lesbians and gay men.

“Once they’re done using you to get rid of us,” McPherson said, “they’re going to use a sub-set of you to get rid of you. It’s in fact history repeating itself. When people choose not to stand up — and they aren’t standing up — they will be responsible for their own downfall.”

Guidelines Target Infections Acquired In Hospitals

New standards released by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations now require accredited hospitals to prove they are reducing, or at least controlling hospital-acquired infections.

The commission, an independent, non-profit group responsible for accrediting U.S. health-care institutions, issued and revised standards in response to the medical community’s growing concern for stricter measures to control the spread of hospital-acquired infections, as well as mounting pressure from hospital administrators to contain costs.

Nationwide, between 20,000 to 40,000 deaths are directly and indirectly attributable to hospital-acquired infections, making them the fourth leading cause of death. They also account for a national economic burden of \$5 billion to \$10 billion annually.

Past infection control standards were primarily concern-

ed with monitoring and reporting the incidence of hospital-acquired infections, rather than on developing methods for prevention.

Under the new standards, infection control practitioners must identify and prioritize patients most at risk, develop specific strategies to reduce infection among those patients, and document the outcome of their efforts.

“Those of us who’ve been working in the field for many years have proven that we can save lives and money,” said Dr. Patrick Joseph, a leading specialist in infectious diseases and infection control. “Now that accreditation is at stake, we’ll have more clout in getting our policies implemented.”

Several factors are contributing to a patient population that is at higher risk of contracting hospital-acquired infections than ever before: the AIDS epidemic, a growing elderly population, and the increasing use of therapies like chemotherapy that suppress the immune system. Skyrocketing costs, also, are making hospitalization viable only for the very ill.

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Bruce Dale Davidson

Aug. 16, 1956–March 15, 1990
Bruce Davidson, one of South of Market's favorite bar managers, slipped away to everlasting peace on March 15, after a long, courageous battle with AIDS.



Never one to complain of his illness, Bruce, always with a smile on his face, was constantly concerned with those who were less fortunate than himself. A strong supporter of many community events and fundraisers and his love of the Watering Hole Saloon, gave Bruce the strength to carry on during his final months. Never one to look back, he was always planning ahead for the future.

Born 33 years ago in Bakersfield, Bruce spent his school years in Fresno County, and 11 years ago moved to San Francisco. He managed the Alexis Towers Convalescent Home for three years and tended bar at several well-known establishments before becoming a member of the Watering Hole family. Upon the death of former manager, Brian Todd, Bruce assumed the responsibilities and set his own style, which made him an instant hit with customers and employees alike.

Bruce could be found having that early morning cup of coffee and catching up on the latest dirt at the Polk Gulch, generally every morning. He loved to party and his generosity knew no limits when someone needed a helping hand.

Once again the Watering Hole is mourning his loss, as well as all those who knew Bruce.

Bruce is survived by his mother, Enid Davidson of Aubrey, Calif., and two brothers, Richard and Gary. Interment was Tuesday, March 20, next to his father, at Tollhouse Cemetery, Tollhouse, Calif. Although he is free of pain, he will never be forgotten.

For those friends wishing to join the staff of the Watering Hole, a remembrance and celebration of his life will be held at the Watering Hole Saloon, Saturday, March 31, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Joseph E. Miller

Joe let go of his five year struggle with AIDS on March 7 and was made comfortable in his home. He died in the arms of his lover of 11 years, Mark Higgins on March 10.

Joe was born on July 17, 1947. He was raised on a North Dakota farm by loving parents. Joe graduated valedictorian from high school and went on to two years of Lutheran Bible School. He then settled in Minneapolis where he began his career as a bartender. One recognizes the "Habdashery"?

In 1975 Joseph moved to San Francisco and began to make his home here. He was active in union politics with Local 2; he also became involved with Gay Rap, BAGLE and the Glide Ensemble. He was a bartender at the Pacific Union Club for 13 years.

In 1978 Joe began his recovery in A.A. He was proud of his 12-year continuous commitment. Joe was instrumental in the formation of a Gay/Lesbian Atheist/Agnostic AA group, which continues to this day.

Aside from Mark, Joe is survived by his father, brother, sisters and many nephews and nieces, of whom his favorite was definitely Karen. Joe had an extensive family of friends in San Francisco, some of whom preceded him in death.

A memorial will take place on March 24 at 11 a.m. at First Unitarian Chapel at 1187 Franklin, in S.F., followed by a gathering at 2 Townsend #2-604. Donations may be made in Joe's name to Shanti Project or AIDS research.

Bradford B. Lee

Dec. 1, 1952–March 13, 1990
A native of Grand Rapids, Mich., Brad had celebrated his ninth anniversary of grateful recovery from alcoholism before his final victory over AIDS at his home in San Francisco. Survived by his parents Maurice and June Lee, brother Jeffrey, sisters Melissa, Martha and Amy, a niece Stephanie and many, many loving friends, he was preceded in his death by his beloved companion Kenneth Jardin.



Brad lived in San Francisco for 14 years. He had been coping with AIDS-related conditions since 1984, was diagnosed with AIDS in September 1986 and with lymphoma in September 1987. He worked as a Shanti emotional support volunteer around the time of his ARC diagnosis. Brad resigned from a Bank of America secretarial job in August 1986, later working a few months on hotlines at Project Inform and the SF AIDS Foundation.

Following chemotherapy for lymphoma, he worked at temporary computer assignments and took college courses in paralegal training. In June 1989 CMV retinitis caused Brad to begin to lose his eyesight, but undaunted, he took up painting, learned to play the flute and was devoted to improving his bridge game. Never failing to make the most of whatever life gave him, Brad studied Braille after becoming blind in February.

A memorial service will be held at St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church at 1661-15th Street, San Francisco on March 31 at 2 p.m., followed by a reception in the parish rose garden. His ashes will be scattered over the Pacific. Remembrances may be sent to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, AmFAR or Shanti Project.

Brad, we miss you more than words can express, but you have shown us the way. Your intelligent wit, independence and courage shall not be forgotten.

Michael Sherker

Michael died unexpectedly in New York on Feb. 19 from uncontrolled diabetes. He was 32. He was an actor, an archivist and an activist in numerous endeavors. For several years he had been the archivist for the Dance Theater of Harlem. His efforts to document the history of the dance community led to his co-founding of Preserve, the Coalition for Performing Arts Archives. His work with Preserve was instrumental in securing a nationwide network to preserve the history of the performing arts.

His other major work in recent years involved extensive research into the history of the 1969 Stonewall Riots. Michael conducted dozens of oral history interviews with participants and observers of the riots. In addition he thoroughly researched a variety of records that document the Stonewall Inn, events surrounding the riot and subsequent rioting, and the development of mythological aspects of this pivotal event.

In 1988 he won a significant legal battle with the New York Police Department, which forced them to give him access to the police records of the riots (which the NYPD had tried to claim was still under investigation). Michael's family and his publisher, St. Martin's Press, are discussing potential means for completing the unfinished manuscript of his book on Stonewall.

Michael is survived by his loving and supportive parents Leo and Dolly, and brothers Elliot and Steve, all of Miami, his oldest friends Spike Kahn of San Francisco, Chuck Seliger of Oakland and Tina Kambora of New York and hundreds of friends and colleagues across the country. He is sorely missed.

Memorial observances are being organized on both coasts. In San Francisco there will be a gathering of friends on Saturday, April 7. For more information, call Walker at 648-6814.

Andrew David Martinez

Oct. 23, 1946–March 3, 1990

Andrew passed peacefully March 3 of respiratory failure following 2½ days of sedation and 36 days at Garden Sullivan. He lived relatively well with AIDS for 4½ years and STEPS empowerment a year ago helped him tremendously to accept his fate.

Andrew was a former PG&E analyst-programmer, having graduated from SUNY at Stony Brook, N.Y. Prior to college he served in the U.S. Army and the Air Force Medical Corps.

Born Rafael Martinez Gana in Santiago, Chile, he lived with his mother, Inez, in New York and in San Francisco until her death in 1981. For the last seven years he enjoyed traveling with his lover, Ted, who survived him, and also on his own last year to Hawaii and Los Angeles. The Gana family of South America and Oregon and his father in Chile also survive him. Friends may call Ted at 431-3107.

Support from Shanti, Holy Redeemer counselor Bob, Sister Angelo, Dennis, Greg, Dr. Becker, wonderful nurses and prayers of his and Ted's family have been much appreciated.

A memorial service offered by Sister Angelo at Rita da Cascia House will be celebrated by Father John McGrann on Saturday, March 31 at 1 p.m. His ashes will be scattered off Point Reyes according to his wishes. Rita House is at 108 Cole St., near Grove.

"Good night, sweet prince, and flights of angels sing thee to thy rest."

W. Thomas Edwards

Dec. 2, 1956–March 17, 1990

My dear sweet Tom passed away peacefully in the comfort of our home

in the early morning hours of March 17. After a long and courageous battle with AIDS, Tom finally found the peace and happiness he needed within himself to let go of a life he treasured so dearly. Devotedly at his side was his loving lifetime partner Chris Neilson.

Tom worked for Children's Hospital of San Francisco as a resource manager of respiratory care services/ non-invasive laboratory.

Tom so cherished life that he wanted his passing to be a remembrance of the good times, a celebration. His departure on his peaceful and painless journey to the other side started on St. Patrick's Day. He need not worry about the celebration any longer. That was Tom. Always in control.

Tom is survived by his parents William and Jeanne, his sisters Lola and Karen, his brothers Bruce and John, his aunt and uncle Don and Ellie and his many dear and loving friends. Special thanks to Claudia.

A memorial celebration of his life will be held at his home, Sunday, March 25 at 3 p.m., 821-3279. Those wishing to make a donation may do so to Project Open Hand.

My beloved Tom, my life and our home are so empty without you. I will miss you so very much. I love you, as I will always love you. My only hope is that I gave to you everything you so willingly gave to me. May the wind beneath your wings take you on your new journey, to a place with no pain as you endured too much in too many ways in your life here. May you find contentment in the love I will always have for you. Until we meet again, goodbye my love.

Robert Trevino

Jan. 24, 1959–March 16, 1990

Robert left this world peacefully, at home, surrounded by his lover, his mother and friends. He left without physical pain and was fully prepared. Spiritually, he both recognized and participated in the death process as actively as he participated in life.

Born Alberto Villareal Trevino in San Antonio, Texas, Robert was deaf from birth. Deafness, considered a severe handicap by some, was merely a practical inconvenience for Robert and his patience with people not yet familiar with sign language was remarkable.

Robert grew up in Dallas, and, in 1983, came to San Francisco where he spent the best seven years of his life. He lived with AIDS for three years and his positive attitude toward his condition was an inspiration to all who knew him.

He enjoyed an especially close relationship with his mother, San Juana Trevino and with Michael Spain, his lover of more than six years.

Robert's outgoing personality, distinctive good looks and impeccable style (second only to Bette Davis) won many friends and admirers. Robert would say, with pride, "I shopped 'til I dropped."

Robert J. Green

1947–1990

Bob passed from us on March 12, while in the tender care of his twin brother, Bill, sister-in-law Trish and cousin Pam, after living determinedly with AIDS for two years. He was surrounded by his loving friends and his pups, Molly and Rosie.

Born and raised in New Jersey, he received his BA from St. John Fisher College, Rochester, N.Y. In 1972 he received his law degree from Catholic University in D.C. and worked for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. until 1980, when he came to FDIC's San Francisco Legal Division.

In 1988 he became Regional Counsel for open bank legal affairs in the San Francisco region. He is well-known and respected in the bank regulatory community.

A lover of Irish things, he attended college in Ireland for a time and returned there frequently. He will be remembered and sorely missed for his sharp wit, ability to "turn a phrase," and love for and generosity to his friends.

Services were held here and in New Jersey where Bob was laid to rest. Besides his twin brother, he is survived by his brother John, four nieces and nephews, many loving relatives and a rainbow of friends.

Contributions to Project Open Hand or AIDS Emergency Fund are preferred.

Go with our love, Robert.

Charles Peterson

Beauty—he would say that it was beauty that made him truly happy. And when Charles Peterson died Monday, March 12, we remembered the beauty he taught us to see.

Perfection, integrity—not just goals for Charles but how he lived. Charles created a world full of that perfection:

- 8½ years of loving devotion from Ken;
- His caring family in Iowa;
- 11 years at Gumps after two years teaching junior high;
- His extraordinary attendant, Nancy;
- His faithful Shanti volunteers, Michael, Nick and Tony.

At once gentle and willful, demanding yet long-suffering, Charles passed away at home without struggle, full of quiet courage and a tenacious will to live.

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Dan Ricktor

Sept. 7, 1948-March 7, 1990

On Wednesday, March 7, my "Big D" found the peace he was denied during the last three years of his life. Those were to be his most difficult times as the effects of ARC and AIDS took their toll on his once strong and handsome body. He never gave up hope that one day there would

be a cure for his illness. Through it all he managed to keep that wry sense of humor we all knew him for, and that special "innocent" quality I admired in him most; his love for all that was life.

Dan was a giver—always thoughtful. Generous from the heart. His love of entertainment, cooking and presentation will be remembered by all who partook in his many parties and gourmet dinners. He loved gardening, movies, his menagerie of pets, amusement parks, fishing, working a difficult crossword puzzle with his close friend Agnes, and playing tour guide in that most beautiful of cities, San Francisco. Dan never tired of showing off his adopted city to all who would visit, filling his tours with a myriad of intimate stories—some true—others fancifully romantic.

Born in Baltimore, Md., he lived in Washington, D.C., working for the Smithsonian Museum for many years before moving to San Francisco in 1976. For the next 10 years he was employed by I. Magnin & Co. as Display Manager in their Union Square store, giving immense pleasure with his natural creative talent for decoration and design.

Dan worked tirelessly to bring together, and on occasion initiated special events both civic and private, sponsored by I. Magnin & Co. for AIDS and other causes. For the past few years he was involved in volunteer work for both Open Hand and the San Francisco SPCA.

Dan is survived by his life's partner, Ken Reiman, his mother, Helen, father Dan, brother Gary, sisters Mary Clare, Jane and Arlene. The constant companionship of his close friends Agnes, Andy, Larry, Lyle, Skip, Dr. Bill and Mary were a great comfort in his final months.

A memorial service was held at Most Holy Redeemer Church on March 9, Sunday, April 1, would have marked the 10th anniversary of Dan's partnership with Ken and on that day his ashes will be scattered in the bay near Golden Gate Bridge in accordance with his wishes. Afterward, friends are invited to attend a gathering to celebrate Dan's life and memory. Please call Ken at 824-2524 for the time and location.

Dear friend, I will never forget our kiss on top of City Hall's dome or the gift of love you brought to me. It was a beautiful life. As you begin your new journey, I'll remember our parting promise. Wait by the light. I'll find you there. —Love, "Big K"

John S. Keene

April 25, 1952-March 8, 1990

Our stubborn little friend got his last wish and blacked out on Bingo Thursday after a courageous battle with liver failure and HIV-related complications at Coming Home Hospice.

John leaves us, his friends and family with many wacky, wonderful memories, which help us to keep John among us. And what memories, pursuing a goal especially related to the Names Project, fundraising for AIDS charities was when the true total self of who John was shown through best, true tunnel vision.

A special thanks for the '87 Castro Xmas tree from Gert and Evelyn of the Names Project.

John came to San Francisco 10 years ago from Atlanta, Ga., where he had a fabulous bird shop. He loved San Francisco and quickly began his adaptation of being in the city he loved.

Life is made of memories and John left us many covering the gamut. Through it all he maintained a dignity he carried with him to his transition.

John asked us to thank all the staffs at PPMC, Garden Sullivan, Coming Home Hospice and Bingo for their wonderful help and support. He is survived by his parents, Robert and Lorraine Keene of San Juan Capistrano, sister Katy Berrington of Pennsylvania, and brother, and of course all of us from the fan club, you know who you are.

Services will be held on March 29 at 7 p.m. at Most Holy Redeemer Church. Say good night, Gracie.

James David Peck

Dec. 6, 1953-Feb. 27, 1990

David passed from this life, and entered eternal rest with his sister Darlene Hanks-Sigman by his side.

David was a fighter and held close to his dreams and aspirations in his involvement with the gay community.

The founder of The Living Room formerly Revival of San Francisco, a social club for people with HIV, he embraced the opportunity to help, share and provide services for his brothers and sisters.

An active member of Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, he volunteered his professional skills to assist with computerizing their accounting procedures. He had a love for life and lived it to its fullest. David touched many hearts since his arrival in San Francisco in 1978. Born a Pentecostal in Mount Sterling, KY, he is the son of Carl and Ruth E. Peck.

He is also survived by his sister, Darlene Hanks-Sigman, and his brother-in-law, Roy Sigman and brother of the late Samuel Peck.

David lived well, died peacefully and is remembered lovingly by all those who had the good fortune of sharing in his light; his loving friends Daven Balcomb, Troy Naranja, James Bruce Gardner, Norton Stanford Twite, Rita Reel, Susan Shea, Cheryl Saul, Terry Bruce Bridges and many, many, more.

David obtained a B.A. in accounting, attended Mortuary College in San Francisco, Skyline College and Larry Moore University of Cosmetology. He also served in the U.S. Air Force from 1973-1964.

Known for his dry sense of humor and good deeds, he was nicknamed "The Sainted Sharina," and held court at "The Living Room." The sharing of other delights were drinking strawberry Daiquiris at the Patio.

David will miss you and you will always be in our hearts and remembrances of loving, nasty and compromised relationships which will again see you through another light.

Memorial services were held March 3 at MCC of San Francisco. His body has been transported to Eaton Cemetery in Clay City, KY for burial services. Special appreciation to Darlene Hanks-Sigman and David Balcomb for all their help and support through his illness.

Donations (in lieu of flowers) may be offered to: The Living Room at 544A Castro, San Francisco, CA 94114. For further information contact California Funeral Service at 431-4227.

David Earl Fletcher

Nov. 2, 1933-March 11, 1990

David passed away in Texas on Sunday, March 11. He was a mentor to many including his friend Joe because he taught him a helluva lot about "life"

and how to deal with its ups and downs. He also was one of the wittiest people on this earth.

David was a San Franciscan with a touch of Los Angeles as well of Texas. All three places were his home. He was employed by Paramount Pictures Corp. for the majority of his career. He made all who knew him laugh, even if you tried not to.

Honesty was extremely important to David and sometimes to a fault. He wouldn't call "a spade, a spade," he called it a fuckin' shovel.

We all miss you David ("Sketch"). Please humor our friends who are already there awaiting your wonderful style and tell "Mickey" I said hello. As before — Joe Weathers

Charles William Bishop

Sept. 19, 1946-March 9, 1990

A special friend was taken from us on March 9. Bill Bishop died of complications from abdominal surgery. In a life that seems so brief in years, he was able to cram many life-times of friends, excitement, travel and achievements.

Born, raised and educated in the South, he served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam, frequently volunteering his off-duty hours working in Vietnamese orphanages. Finding himself stateside, San Francisco sang its song of the '70s and Bill followed her sirens' melody. He garnered many friends from all social strata, making everyone he met feel at ease and immediately at home.

Always ready for a show, Bill was one of the original twirlers in the SF Marching Band, finding a wealth of talent with a baton and spandex.

He became a Peace Corps volunteer and was sent to the Sultanate of Oman, where he taught English. After his two-year stint, he accepted a position at the prestigious Sultans School in the capitol, again teaching English literature and drama. While in the Middle East he travelled extensively through Egypt, India, Tibet and the islands of the Indian Ocean.

Coming home to San Francisco after eight years abroad, he lived and loved and was a tremendous support to friends who were stricken with AIDS. He could be found visiting, helping out or just taking the time to be with someone.

Binkie—we love you and miss you terribly. But the good Lord must have needed another twirler, and knowing you, you probably volunteered! Much love.

Michael A. Matthews

Michael A. Matthews, 43, who worked for many years as a fundraising consultant for a variety of San Francisco Bay Area non-profit organizations, died March 11 from complications related to AIDS.

Michael, a native of Pasadena, spent his early years in Southern California. He later attended Tyler (Texas) Junior College and the University of California at Santa Barbara before moving to San Francisco in 1979.

Michael began his career as a fundraising consultant with Fitzgerald, Graves and Company. Later he was associated with the Institute on Aging at Mount Zion Hospital.

He is survived by his great aunt, Nell MacGregor of Longview, Texas and his lover of 10 years, Dr. Russell Pemberton.

A requiem Eucharist is scheduled for Michael on Friday, March 23, at 4 p.m. at Grace Cathedral.

Robert Gordon Magruder

1920-1990

Bobby Magruder died in San Diego on March 12 after a battle of several weeks with pneumonia. He had lived in good health in San Francisco for the past year, and was visiting San Diego when he became ill. A memorial service was held in San Diego last Sunday.

Bob, as he was known in San Diego, was a well-known, award-winning interior designer there for 35 years. Bobby, as he was known in

San Francisco, was a Southern gentleman of impeccable manners, good taste and style. He loved interesting, positive people and beautiful things and surrounded himself with both.

He had become a familiar sight strutting briskly through the Castro, encouraged by Jane Fonda on his headset. He was a vitamin and health food enthusiast 40 years before they became trendy. That and modern elective surgery kept him looking far younger than his years. One of his daily joys in San Francisco was having to prove to MUNI station agents that he was indeed eligible for the senior discount fare.

Bobby leaves behind his San Francisco family, Sid Walton and Doug Siddall of Douglass Street; his Atlanta family, Richard and Mary Charles Magruder; a huge San Diego "family"; and a host of loving friends all over this country and Mexico. He would be honored to be memorialized with contributions to the AIDS Emergency Fund (1550 California St., Suite 3R, San Francisco, CA 94109) or to any other AIDS service organization.

Often, at the end of an evening of socializing and story-telling, Bobby would rise, stand in the center of the room and announce, "I have bad news for everybody: I'm going to leave now."

Obituary Policy

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Community Mourns Murphy

by Allen White

Hundreds gathered at Grace Cathedral on March 16 to celebrate the life of Jane McCaskle Murphy. Murphy, who died last week at 80, was one of the great friends of the gay community for more than two decades.

Officially, she was one of the first women appointed to the San Francisco Police Commission. She actively lobbied for women in the Police Department and for the addition of a lesbian to the commission.

Murphy was appointed to the commission by Mayor George Moscone. Joining her, following an appointment by then Mayor Dianne Feinstein, was lesbian Jo Daly.

Daly remembers one of Murphy's most significant contributions when police were ordered to specifically detail domestic violence incidents in police reports. That information has been used to change how the police handle these crimes.

She was also instrumental in the formation of the Office of Citizen Complaints in the Police Department.

The police horses also had a strong and passionate supporter in Murphy. She strongly opposed their phasing out and the issue even was put on the ballot. With Murphy's help, the horses won.

Murphy was also active in San Francisco's political scene and helped give the gay community's political stature and credibility.

Foster, the founder of the Alice Club, was remembering that Murphy, along with Anne Daley and Adria Garabedian, all straight, were the first

(Continued on page 24)

St. Mary's AIDS Services



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Liquor Officials May Visit Castro Businesses Next

by Allen White

Businesses in the Castro that sell liquor may be the next target for the decoy program of the Alcohol Beverage Control Board and the San Francisco Police Department.

Information received this week indicates that more than 250 businesses have been hit and more than 50 citations issued in the past few months across San Francisco.

Though the ABC and the police defend their program as needed to halt liquor sales to minors, gay bar owners and some city supervisors have been highly critical of the program, citing possible liability to the city for using minors in the program and also charges of entrapment.

Andy Lutgringer, who supervises the program for the ABC, says the program has not been used in the Castro. He said the ABC had only visited one Castro bar, "where a fine had not been paid for an incident six months ago."

Defending the program, Lutgringer said, "The bottom line is there is a problem with minors being able to buy liquor."

To that end, they want the word to get out they may soon

be in the Castro.

Lutgringer said the program took great care to be "fair."

"I felt it was best to use kids that were 15-17 and who looked younger," he said. "We try to go in early, not at 11:30 on a Friday night. We are not trying to trick the bartender."

"We always send an agent into the bar to take up a position before the kid comes in. We may send two investigators in to the bar. If the atmosphere is not healthy, I have made the decision to not send the decoy in," he said.

"We used two 15-year-olds but they were very mature for their age," Lutgringer said. "We don't want the kids to have a bad experience. Most get a kick out of it, they are police cadets and are of that frame of mind. They are kids, that even at their age, have shown a desire to be involved in law enforcement."

Several bar owners that have felt the sting of the program say the minors, in fact, look over 21.

"I don't think it just happens that they look over 21 in the bar and a few months later look like they just got out of kinder-

garten when they go to the hearing," one bartender said.

When the program is put in place in an area, virtually every type of business selling liquor is hit. In addition to bars, they also visit liquor stores, drug stores, supermarkets as well as "mom and pop grocery stores."

Though initial reports indicated only gay bars were being scrutinized, the record shows that only a small percentage of the more than 250 liquor outlets targeted are gay businesses.

Lutgringer minimized the penalties for first offenders.

"If a bar owner makes a mistake, it is not a really serious penalty the first time," he said.

The fine for the first offense is \$300 to \$1,500. The maximum fine for a second offense can increase to \$6,000. He did say that in one incident a liquor license was pulled.

With the ABC/police program hitting bars across the city, increasing attention has focused on how police harass people in the Polk Street area. As a result, police in the Castro have become concerned over their relationship in the community.

"We don't shine lights in people's faces on the Castro," Officer Bob Miller said.

He said there are more lesbian and gay police officers at Mission Station than at any other station in the city.

Of the Castro, Miller explained, "There is a sense of community," adding that police have spent years building up a positive relationship with the people in that area. ▼



Samantha Samuels and Jim Baroni

(Photo: Baldocchi)

AIDS Emergency Fund Co-Chairs To Be Introduced at Dinner

On March 24 Samantha Samuels and Jim Baroni will be introduced as honorary co-chairs for 1990 at the AIDS Emergency Fund's 4th Annual Kick-Off Dinner to be held at Bimbo's Supper Club, 1025 Columbus Ave.

Cocktails will be at 6:45 p.m. and dinner will begin at 7:30 p.m. Call 821-6116 for ticket information.

Samuels is a popular singer/actress who has played many

clubs in the Bay Area as well as supper clubs in Chicago, New York and Los Angeles. She is the recipient of the Drama-Logue "Martini Award," the "Key" to the city of Houston and two SF/Bay Area Gold Awards for outstanding female vocalist.

Baroni has just received the Cable Car Award for "Man of the Year 1990." He has been the general manager of the Castro Street Station for the past six and a half years. ▼

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Murphy

(Continued from page 23)

women to join what is the nation's oldest gay political club. Murphy, with Herb Donaldson had been honored for their commitment to the club.

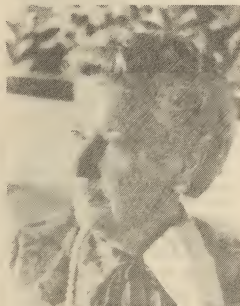
Ron Braithwaite, president of the Alice Club, praised Murphy for her strong political commitment.

"She was a strong supporter of Art Agnos in his mayoral election campaign," he said, "and was one of the hardest workers when it came to generating support for him in our club."

Murphy, in fact, had worked as a social worker for the state of California, and many remembered last week that one of her colleagues was Agnos.

San Francisco's legal community also was present. With people such as Police Chief Frank Jordan, Sheriff Michael Hennessey and District Attorney Arlo Smith, the friendly cordial atmosphere was certainly as much a statement of Jane Murphy as anything.

Like Murphy, the many of the celebrants were victors of many political skirmishes. Without any particular planning, the audience was the cream of the city's political consciousness raisers. Jane Morrison, who brought



minorities into the local radio scene was there.

Jack Morrison, a former city supervisor, the man who has led many of San Francisco's environmental battles joined his wife, Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, the two women credited with bringing lesbians out of the closet and beginning a movement, were a statement simply by their presence.

Chris Puccinelli, Hyde Downard and Cramer, all from the Cable Car Award's board, were present to remember her receiving the Dorothy Langston Humanitarian Award.

Murphy's receipt of the award in 1981, was considered by many to have set a standard for the highest award given to a non-gay person at the awards.

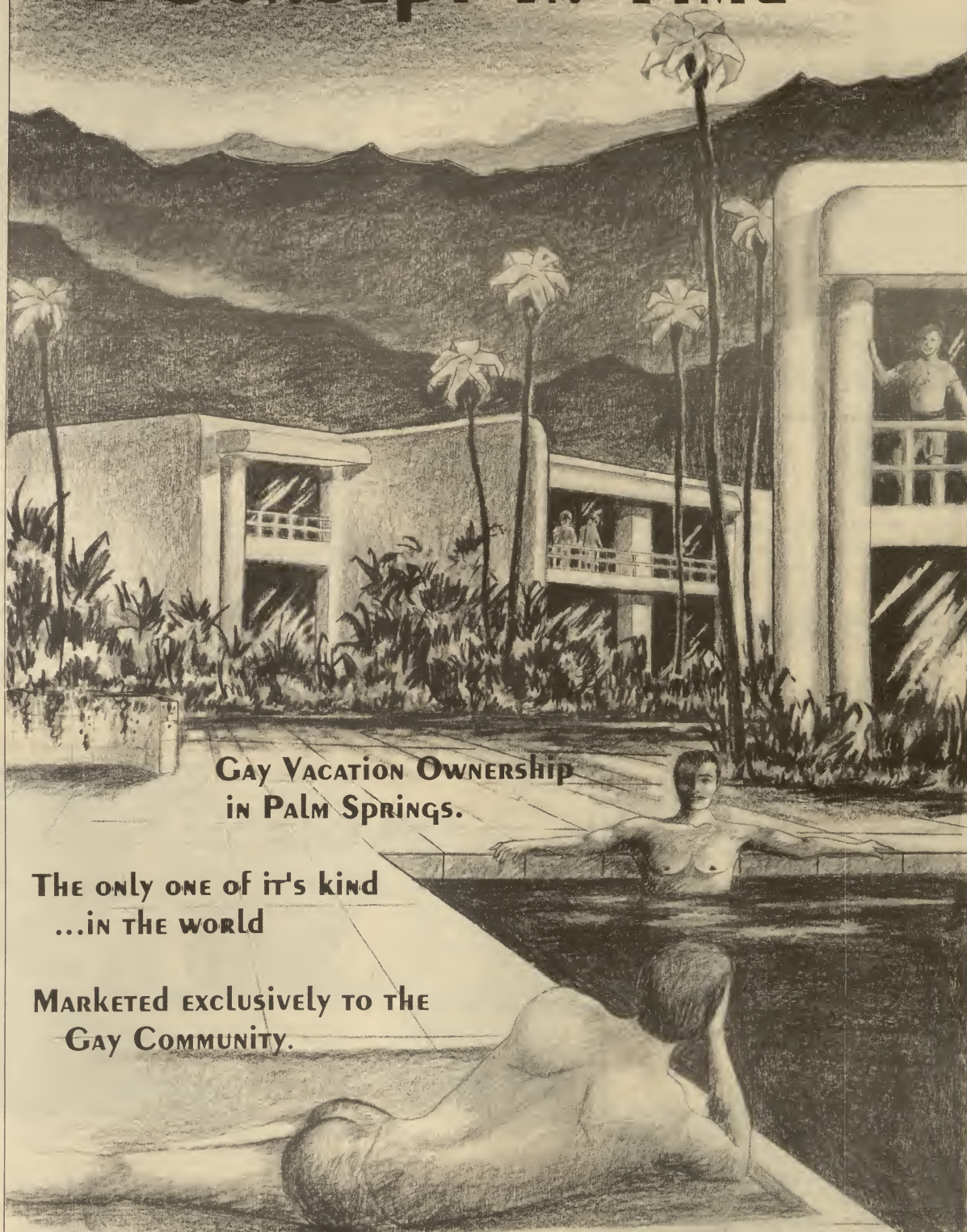
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Bay Area Reporter Greater Bay News

New Services In Contra Costa

The Contra Costa County AIDS Task Force has announced three new additions to the services and programs it provides to the local HIV-impacted community: a food bank, a twice-monthly legal clinic and a socially oriented program that provides CCCATF clients opportunities to attend entertainment and cultural events.

The new "mini food bank," located in the Task Force offices in Pleasant Hill, consists primarily of the high-calorie beverage Ensure and other food supplements commonly recommended for those with HIV infection.

The new legal clinic will pro-

vide clients easy access to the preparation of wills and powers of attorney as well as an ongoing resource to stay advised of their legal rights. According to Bermudez, the legal clinic is especially useful to IV drug users with AIDS.

The new "Friends for Fun" program offers clients opportunities to attend movies, plays, museum exhibits and other events free of charge or at a discounted admission rate.

The service expansions are in addition to the practical help and emotional support provided to clients by over 200 CCCATF volunteers. For more information about CCCATF services or volunteer opportunities, telephone (415) 689-1077.

2 Stand Trial in Murder Of East Bay Gay Banker

by Keith Clark

One of the two young men accused of murder told a court in Martinez during testimony March 15 that he "panicked" before shooting a gay East Bay banker, Kenneth Erickson, the evening of Sept. 11, 1988, in what the police described as an "execution-style slaying."

Robert Staedel, 19, is accused along with Charles Carter, 21, of the kidnapping-murder of Erickson after the two youths met him at an adult bookstore that police said is a "well-known place of assignation" for gay sexual encounters.

Staedel, in his second day of testimony during the trial, contradicted statements he had earlier made to police during the initial investigation of the case.

Both youths initially told police they were gay. During his testimony, however, Staedel described Carter as a bisexual whose "fast and exciting" lifestyle appealed to him, but considered himself a heterosexual.

Staedel also told the court that, contrary to statements to the police given by the two young men that they had both shot Erickson, it was he who

had actually fired all the shots.

Staedel told the court that the two had later developed a "plan" that he said involved the two of them taking responsibility for the shooting if they were caught.

Staedel said he occasionally went with Carter during his furtive sexual encounters with other men, remaining in a nearby parked car "in case anything went wrong" and Carter needed him.

The night Carter had met Erickson at the bookstore, Staedel told the court he had driven in another car to a nearby parking lot, following the other two men. After a few minutes, Staedel said, Carter had yelled for him.

Staedel said when he reached the other car, Erickson was naked and Carter was pointing a gun at him. After a period of indecision, the two youths forced the nude Erickson into the trunk of Carter's car and drove to Tilden Park in the East Bay.

Staedel testified that Erickson was then taken out of the trunk and, after a few minutes, began running from the two "not very fast." At this point, Staedel said, "Charles [Carter] handed me the gun

and said something like 'He's going to identify us. Don't let him get away.'"

In response to a direct question, Staedel said he had then shot Erickson who fell down a hillside by the road.

Staedel said Carter had given him a flashlight and that he followed where Erickson had fallen. There, Staedel told the court, he shot him "a few more times." Questioned by his attorney, Lincoln Mintz, as to why he had shot the man, Staedel said, "I guess I panicked." Erickson was a loan officer at the Old Stone Bank in Pleasant Hill at the time of his death. He was divorced and the father of two sons. He had been active in the Contra Costa AIDS Task Force and other East Bay community groups.

Carter will be tried separately following Staedel's trial. Both men, who have pleaded innocent although police say they each admitted the killing, could face the death penalty.

Both men are also suspected in the murder of Luis Chaves Baro in nearby Hayward five days before Erickson's death. Baro was discovered tied up and shot to death shortly after Erickson's body was found.

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LeGaSee co-founders Jessea Greenman (left) and Cathy McIntosh prepare a mailing.

(Photo: Gerhartner)

Fighting Isolation

UC Gays, Lesbians Organize

by Cindy Bologna

On National Coming Out Day 1989 UC Berkeley staff members Jessea Greenman and Cathy McIntosh announced the formation of LeGaSEE (pronounced "legacy")—Lesbian/Gay Staff Empowerment and Enlightenment. Since that time, 58 members of UC Berkeley's staff have contacted the group and joined as participants.

LeGaSEE is mainly a social group, allowing gay, lesbian and bisexual non-faculty staff

an opportunity to meet one another as well as have social events such as pot-luck suppers and dances.

The need for the group, according to Greenman, arose out of a feeling of isolation by gay, lesbian and bisexual staff.

Even though the university has a non-discrimination policy, which includes sexual orientation, many gay staff are afraid to be open about their sexuality. LeGaSEE's membership is open to staff who are

out, and also provides a safe haven for those who prefer not to disclose their sexuality to their co-workers.

The group's first social function held this year attracted 22 people. Some were glad to recognize familiar faces at the gathering.

"The fear of discrimination exists," Greenman said. "While it's unlikely that a person would be fired because of his or her sexuality, the

(Continued on page 27)



And the winners are C.Q., first place (bottom), Lucy Manhatan, second place (left), and Nikki, third place (right).

Sucking It Back

Major Bowles, Ted Mack and Ed McMahon eat your hearts out! The talent show at the Turf Club, Sunday, March 11, was above and beyond anything you three could have put together. Plus, there were contests and raffles to boot!

The "not too widely publicized" beer drinking contest—not to be confused with the "beer bust" itself, ably personified by Lena Mae and C.J. Stoyka—managed to entice 14 stalwart contestants. All were eager, ready, willing and able to "chug-a-lug" the lager presented.

Unbeknownst, however, to those vying for the honor of fastest stout drinker, all the suds were presented in tightly nipples bottles!

Perhaps the male contestants were used to sucking on something larger, and that's why none of them were in the "win/place/show" category. The women, don't you know, must be used to doing things with nipples, because Baron Lynda finished off hers in nothing flat.

There was a \$5 entry fee for this event, and the winner would split 50/50. The total received was \$70, so Lynda was awarded \$35 for her feat. She most graciously donated it back to the ISE Charity Account Fund.

The 50/50 raffle, conducted by Emperor XI Michael and his polished cuspidor, raised a total of \$230. The winner who split the spittoon, as it were, was Daniel of the Turf Club!

The lion's share of the evening, if you will, centered around the talent contest, the winner of which was determined by dollars placed in individual entertainers' tip basket—not to be confused with Easter Basket, which isn't until next month. Each dollar represented one vote, and even though change wasn't encouraged, it did I'm sure, contribute greatly to the grand total raised for ISE Charity Account Fund.

In order of appearance, the contestants were: Paul B. from San Jose; Nikki (better known as David M. who ran for Emperor XI!); Lucie Manhatan from San Jose doing it live (in my opinion she should have won the Bronx and Staten Island, too); Andrea; Empress XI Timmi (not in competition but her tips went to the fund anyway); Wayne from Livermore who was introduced as a comedian but he wasn't the least bit funny and after a few excruciating minutes the audience voted him to be removed, which while he was muttering, "Hayward is a weird place"; Imperial Crown Princess Cathy Heart; Trampolina Lopez; Sandra W. from San Leandro; Tiffany from Daly City; Shiloh from Union City doing it live; and from Hayward, C.Q. doing it live.

Applause had nothing to do with determining the winners, only the dollar amounts in the tip basket. When the dollars were tallied, the winners were: Third Place, \$25, Nikki; Second Place, \$50, Lucy Manhatan; and First Place, \$100, C.Q. (or Sea Cue or See Queue or Si Que). Both Lucy and C.Q. publicly donated back their winnings to ISE Charity Account Fund.

This was a well-attended and well-supported (select Oakland and Hayward bars donated the prize money) event. Princess Royale Renee Colby thanks everyone for their tremendous backing and participation. A tip of Nez's nose to Renee for doing such an outstanding job of Hostess/MC—well, Timmi helped a little! Renee can feel justifiably proud of a job well done. Plaudits and kudos to her and all who participated, even Frumpy in the sound booth!

As a result of the entry fees (both the talent show and the beer chug-a-lug), donations from private individuals, and donating back of prize monies, the grand total for the evening was a very smashing \$1,150. Way to go Renee! You have a right to burst your buttons!

(An aside to Wayne: if the people in Hayward are weird, as you stated, with a total of \$1,150, baby, that's my kind of weird!)

Pastiche
(A "Bits and Pieces" Nose)

Congratulations to ISE for winning "best out of town" presentation at San Jose Coronation, March 3.

★ ★ ★

Congratulations, too, to Reverend Richard York on the celebration of his 50th birthday.

★ ★ ★

Keep Sunday, April 22 open on your calendars! That's the day of Big Mama's official grand re-opening as New Mama's. Believe me, what they have had to go through to clean up the mess left by Z.J.H., it really will be a New Mama's!

★ ★ ★

There is a rumor going around that two body parts just might be in the running for "the first dozen." Is it possible that a Heart and a Nose might be number 12? (One has to be soooooo vague in this kind of game playing, right?)

★ ★ ★

I know, Paul M. You did give me the photograph of the "mint condition" 1974 Datsun 240Z. I did turn it in, but I guess space problems prevent its being printed. Raffle tickets, by the way, are still on sale at selected local pubs.

★ ★ ★

Let's see. First there were the Billy DeFrank Camp Awards. Then there were the Trashy Trish Awards. Now, there is the Kelly Moore Awards coming up on Saturday, April 7, at the Driftwood Lounge. Cathy Heart will host the fun and entertainment. Nominations and voting will be at your favorite Imperial Palaces and Royal Pubs. Details announced really soon.



LeGaSEE

(Continued from page 26)

possibility of being denied a promotion is very real."

To protect the privacy of those involved with LeGaSEE, the group maintains a post office box address, which is located off the UC Berkeley campus. McIntosh also affirms that "our mailing list will always be strictly confidential."

Recent incidents at UC Berkeley indicate a disturbing trend of gay and lesbian discrimination at the campus. As reported in the B.A.R. in November 1989, gay and lesbian

student couples were flatly denied access to married-student housing. And just this past January, lesbian activist Merle Woo had to appear in court to fight a UC Berkeley order that she undergo a psychiatric examination before being considered for reinstatement as a lecturer.

These incidents make it somewhat difficult for closeted gay men and lesbians to acknowledge themselves as such. It was reported that one member of LeGaSEE said it would interfere with job performance if people knew about his/her sexuality.

"Even most professors don't come out until after they've achieved tenure," Greenman told the B.A.R. "People are still afraid."

LeGaSEE hopes to help gay, lesbian and bisexual staff members socialize safely, as well as recognize their numbers on campus. A recent flier produced by the group outlined a map of UC Berkeley and used triangles to indicate those buildings in which openly gay men and lesbians are employed.

"It's important for us to find one another," McIntosh said.

For more information, write to LeGaSEE, P.O. Box 9680, Berkeley, CA 94709.

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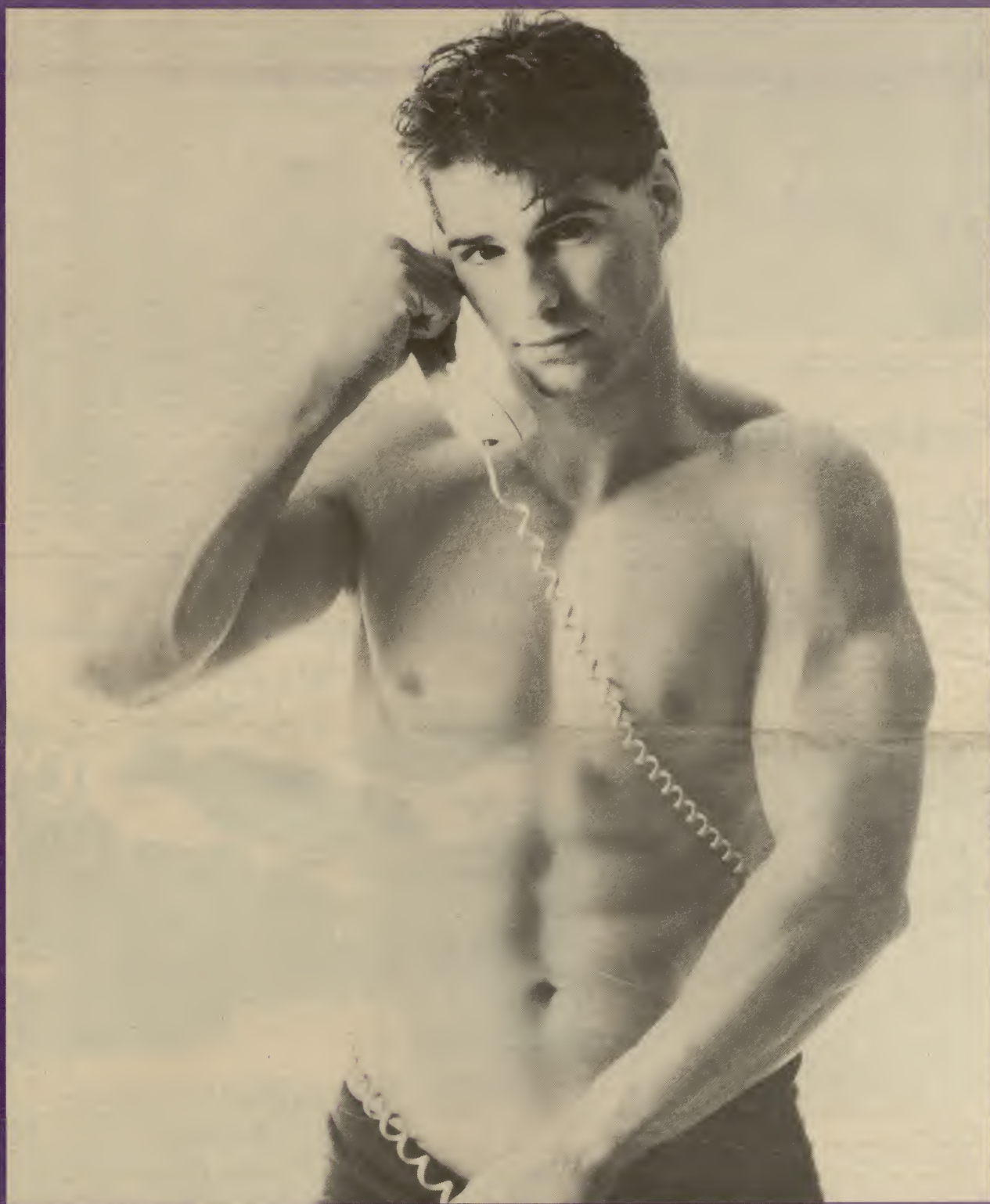
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Bay Area Reporter

Arts & Entertainment

The Freedom of Self Discovery

Mariette Pathy Allen Documents the Odyssey of Crossdressers in America



Vicky West does a can-can in the park.

by David Hirsh

"Things happen to people in San Francisco," said New York-based photographer Mariette Pathy Allen in a recent interview. "Every time I see people here, something interesting has changed, they've experimented with some aspect of their lives. People are looking for their own paths."

Allen has devoted 12 years to photographing people who experiment with gender transformations, including many subjects in the Bay Area. Her book, *Transformations: Crossdressers and Those Who Love Them* has just been released by E.P. Dutton and is available in bookstores. Graceful, direct and humanistic, the photographs have already found a niche in the history of documentary photography. They document people who have arrived at knowledge about themselves after a full-fledged odyssey and

are wandering the byways of classic Americana in broad daylight.

Allen also allows those photographed to tell their own stories in their own words. Self discovery is her primary theme and she is acutely aware of her subjects as individuals. One subject, Vicky, says, "The men I lived with were gay lovers.... Recently, with the AIDS epidemic, guys are doing drag as another avenue of expression.... The Halloween parade is bigger. Before, guys looked down on it.... What kills me is that gay people have forgotten the accomplishments of the Stonewall riot, a turning point in gay history. Coming out, year after year, unaware that transvestites were the ones that started the riot.... I believe that transvestites should be proud and should be honored for what they've accomplished."

People remain generally unaware that many crossdressers are, in fact, heterosexual. In many cultures, men who "flaunt themselves" as women are the most public of homosexuals and have long been the convenient targets for violent bigotry. A fuller picture of the very diverse and private interests in crossdressing is only slowly developing. For instance, the late, famous, West Coast photographer, Edward Weston, frequently attended parties as a woman.

He wrote in his journals, "As a ravishing woman I was a success with the women." For Weston, who believed that women were "good for only one thing," his success was measured in only one way.

Wealth of Visual Information

Weston aside, *Transformations* contains a wealth of written and visual information. There is Elaine, who says, "I like to travel. In many respects my crossdressing is just traveling in another dimension."

There is Cindy: "My mother was a square dancer. The feel of the petticoats, the sound of the skirts rustling against the nylons, that's what got to me.... From the time I was five, until 18, it was my firm, unflagging belief that I was only moments away from being institutionalized.... [Later,] I was on the fast track to making permanent, drastic changes to my life, convinced that I could live full-time as a woman.... Some days I still think about that possibility."

Kaye, the wife of Wayne/Elayne, feels that "Wayne's crossdressing has been, for the most part, a good learning experience for the children. It could make them more accep-



Bob to Malinda, mid-transformation.

ting of other people. Ryan climbs trees. But he also works with needlepoint.... Sometimes I get a little annoyed with Wayne when he decides to put on a dress just when we need to get someplace. I've got three kids to get ready and he's busy making himself pretty!"

Missy Allison dresses in a full-length, lacy, white gown and holds a small parasol in

one hand and a rose in the other. She might be "M'lady" in the garden, but she's actually on the overgrown grounds of an abandoned steel mill, and she's thinking, "I imagined what it must have been like, working in a dirty grimy job. What if one of them was a TV?"

Mariette Pathy Allen herself
(Continued on page 40)



Brooklyn native Ed becomes "Linda," but only in Manhattan. He totes a suitcase by subway and changes in town.



Erotica is the Food of Life

An Interview with Author Tee Corinne

by Dell Richards

Lesbian love scenes have been a staple of erotic art and literature since the first cave dweller drew "dirty pictures" on rock walls. But erotica written by and for lesbians only has been around for 15 years. From its inception, it has been surrounded by controversy not just from the far right but from feminists within the lesbian movement.

While many feminists have

begun to say that lesbian erotica offers a whole new way of seeing women's sexuality, homosexual erotica of any type currently is under even heavier attack from the right wing. Arch conservative Jesse Helms recently managed to get all federal funding stopped for any art that had homoerotic content.

Despite attacks from all sides, however, lesbian erotica is alive and well. One of the

primary women who helped create the art and literature of this new genre is Tee Corinne, an artist who lives in rural Oregon.

Since 1975, Corinne has published three books of erotic art, two books of erotic writing and a recent anthology. Her most widely known book—*The Cunt Coloring Book*—has sold 10,000 copies. With this series of 48 black-and-white drawings, Corinne showed that

using female genitalia could be entertainingly beautiful. Another work of erotic art, *Yantras of Womanlove*, includes 32 exquisite black-and-white photographs of women making love as if seen through a kaleidoscopic prism.

Beauty Censored

Despite the beauty of her art, Corinne has known her share of censors. *Yantras of*
(Continued on page 39)

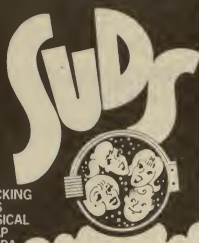


Tee Corinne

(Photo: Annie Ocean)

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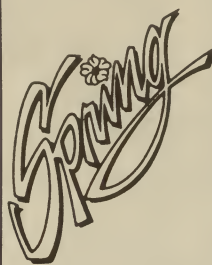


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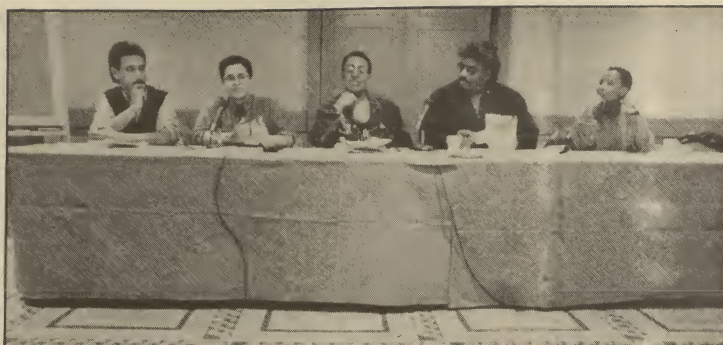
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Out Write's "Revis(ion)ing Race" panel. Left to right: Tomas Almaguer, Jackie Goldsby, Dave Frechette, Thom Bean, Evelyn White.
(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Out Write and People of Color

by Karl Bruce Knapper

"The hope of the world is still in dedicated minorities. The trailblazers in human, academic, scientific, and religious freedom have always been in the minority."

— Martin Luther King, Jr.

For this writer, one of the more empowering and invigorating aspects of Out Write '90, the first annual gay and lesbian writer's conference, was the fact that not only were there more than a handful of gays and lesbians of color present, but that we also had an integral place in the conference.

Throughout the conference issues pertaining to people of color were discussed with a sensitivity and level of consciousness I had not assumed likely.

Two panels dealt specifically with issues of interest to people of color.

The first, "Revis(ion)ing Race: A Conversation About Politics, Literature and Invisibility," had black and Latino writers and activists discussing the meaning and

problems of race in gay literature and media, and proposing strategies to deal with difference and diversity. We must all work on not trivializing others' opinions or participation in the decision-making process.

The panel was moderated by Thom Bean, publisher of *Quarterly Interchange*, a journal of opinion and contact for black gay men. He opened by talking about his experiences with the gay media.

When he wrote *The Advocate* to ask why they excluded his articles from appropriate referencing in their index (where there are approximately 500 articles on bars and less than seven on race relations), they did not respond, and when he published *The Castro Express*, some of the staff of local gay papers asked his advertisers why they were advertising in a black gay paper, though his race had nothing to do with the paper's format.

'Isms' Impact

"The bottom line," Bean said, "is that one or more 'isms'

impact all of our lives. We must all get in touch with our 'otherness' and learn to accept difference and diversity. We must all work on not trivializing others' opinions or participation in the decision-making process.

"We must all encourage cultural and ethnic diversity in our workplaces, our social and civic activities, our magazines, our editorial staffs or boards, and our anthologies. Not just because it is morally and politically correct and the right thing to do, but because we all are victims of this 'ism' or another and this is the only way out of it, and the only end that I see."

Bean was followed by Jackie Goldsby, a critic and editor of *OutLook* magazine. Goldsby said that she couldn't think of a better time to be a critic because of the amazing growth in writing by black gay men and lesbians. She stated that cultural mandarins like Jesse Helms, William Bennett, and Allan Bloom were scared of people becoming culturally

(Continued on page 38)

'Electric City' Benefit

Nightmare on Market Street

by Noreen C. Barnes

On Sunday, April 1, Electric City will sponsor "A Nightmare on Market Street" (a "live" stage revue) as a benefit event at the Strand Theatre, featuring a veritable circus of entertainment, including live performances, film clips and the "Pluggies"—very cheap awards for notable actions of various kinds.

Mark of Electric City says that the benefit is "because our camera's dying" and is in desperate need of replacement. Those who watch the cable program, and others, hopefully will support their work which serves—as Electric City's Sandy notes—"to keep an eye on the community," by attending for the very cheap price ("less than a movie!") of \$5.

The variety show stars Al Parker, Rainbeau, Desiree, Sandy Van as Tallulah Bankhead, Bill Poole, Cleopatra, Marilyn Monroe, Peter Barklay, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and the No Concessions Girls (women from ACT UP), with a special guest appearance by "Buttman."

Also featured are The Lovely Ggrec and Jerrome (who will be crowned tyrants), fire



Save "Cheap TV" benefit is April 1 at Strand.

(Photo: Rink)

eaters, jugglers, the Club Uranus dancers, assorted surprise guests and some film clips, including original trailers from such memorable works as Ann-Margret's *Kitten with a Whip*, monster films of the 1950s, burlesque and Beatles, and assorted women she-devils to the classic *Can't Stop the Music*.

The tickets themselves are collector's items—original tickets from the 1970s shows at the Warfield and the Egyptian—from Mae West to Edith Massey to *Caligula*.

recipients of awards will include the Dykes from Hell for "Let it All Hang Out Day," Stop AIDS Now Or Else (The Opera House Chapter), and Dennis Peron for "Lifetime Achievement." There will also be several surprise awards. The event is from 7:30 to 10 p.m. and promises to bring together a coalition of diverse groups in the common cause of keeping Electric City's work going. Tickets can be purchased through Electric City by calling 861-7131, and will also be available at the door the night of the show.

Making Virtue of His Necessities

'Mother of Gay Comedy' Finds Applause from Sea to Shining Sea

by Wendell Ricketts

Comedian Tom Ammiano was a mere pup of 23 when he came to San Francisco in 1965, a "nelly, skinny Italian kid" with a New Jersey accent thick enough to cut with a knife. In those days, Ammiano wryly comments, "It wasn't so easy making friends."

Over the years, however, Ammiano has made a virtue of all his necessities, and today he is one of gay America's foremost comics. His flying hands and mile-a-minute patter are Ammiano's trademark, and he doesn't mind poking a little fun at himself if it gets a laugh. ("When I was a baby," Ammiano quips, "they tried to give me a wrist transplant. I'm really a straight man, but the graft didn't take.") Oh, and one other thing: Nowadays, Ammiano isn't suffering from any lack of popularity.



Ammiano: "If you're laughing at a time that's sad or tragic, you're not diminishing the tragedy."

(Photo: Darlene/M.J. Murphy)

In fact, Ammiano's saucy, acerbic routines have been applauded literally from sea to shining sea—in Hawaii, San Diego, San Antonio, Atlanta, Key West, Washington, DC, Boston, New York, Toronto, Indianapolis, Minneapolis, Portland, and Los Angeles, to name some of the cities in which Ammiano has appeared. And, with his unapologetically out-of-the-closet performances at Comedy Day in Golden Gate Park, at Bill Graham's earthquake relief benefit, and in "mainstream" venues from San Leandro to Santa Rosa, Ammiano is doing his best to live up to the title he earned almost a decade ago: "The Mother of Gay Comedy."

Beginning March 27, Ammiano brings his irrepressible one-man-showmanship to the Eureka Theatre in a two-part evening of comedy "both topical and pithy." All performances benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund and the Shanti Project.

Waxing Bitchy

Act One of "An Evening With Tom Ammiano" is a new standup monologue, "Take My Umbrage, Please," in which

Ammiano waxes bitchy on some of his favorite topics—including Dianne Feinstein, Hollywood, and Catholicism ("I went to 16 years of Catholic school," Ammiano says, "so I know that religion *real* good.")

Ammiano has devoted the evening's second half to a performance of *Pouf Positive*, Robert Patrick's biting (but not bitter) dark comedy of AIDS. One of the most notable—and surely the most prolific—graduates of New York's Caffe Cino, Patrick is well known for such plays as *The Haunted Host*, *T-Shirts*, and *Kennedy's Children*, to name a few.

Directed by Theatre Rhinoceros's artistic director Ken Dixon, *Pouf Positive* is a monologue-for-telephone, a kind of *La Voix Humaine* for the AIDS generation. At the center of *Pouf Positive* is

Robin Wood, an aging queen dying flamboyantly of AIDS ("How am I? Well, when I think of what I've got, I feel like shit. But when I think of how I got it, I can't complain!").

In what may be the last conversation of his life—and determined to succumb to neither despair nor to mawkishness—Robin sharpens his rapier wit on his unseen friend and ex-lover. ("Wanna hear some *positive* funeral plans?" he asks the distraught voice at the other end of the line. "I want my ashes mixed with greasepaint and used as blackface for Diana Ross drags.") As Ammiano's publicist put it, "The humor is scathing; the love deep, but unsentimental."

Ammiano explains, "When I spoke to Robert Patrick, he told me that (*Pouf Positive*) was the story of a friend of his, that it was a celebration of that man's spirit and anger and his 'black comedy' viewpoint on having AIDS. That made *Pouf Positive* attractive to me, that it contained such anger (and that it) was balanced by other things. In that way, it's highly political, but it's not rhetoric. And we've all known queens like that." He pauses. "Or else we are queens like that!"

Performing in someone else's script was a bit of a different step for Ammiano, but he says he felt instant rapport with Patrick's brand of humor. The healing power of "laughing through the tears," in fact, is one of the ways Ammiano says his "real working-class Italian family" survived hard times.

When his mother died not long ago, that family humor was in full effect. "Right before my mother died," Ammiano recalls, "she told us, 'When I die, I do not want so-and-so to come to the funeral. She's rotten, her kids are rotten, I've never liked her.' So there we are later, standing in front of the coffin, and in walks that very woman, and she comes up to us and says, 'You know, I always admired your mother,



Positive Poofster: Comedian Tom Ammiano.

(Photo: Rick Gerhartner)

she never said a bad word about anybody.' So what are you supposed to do?"

Ammiano adds, "If you're laughing at a time that's sad or tragic, you're not diminishing the tragedy. I mean, it's not everyone's cup of tea, but I think it acts as a release and that there's hope in it. It's the human condition."

Around 'Longer Than Dirt'

The originator of Gay Comedy Night at the old Valencia Rose, Ammiano has been around, as he puts it, "longer than dirt." It was during the brief reign of the Rose that quite a few San Francisco gay and lesbian comics cut their teeth—among them, Jeanine

Strobel and Lea Delaria, Karen Ripley, Danny Williams, Marga Gomez, Suzy Berger, Doug Holsclaw, and many others. Until it closed in 1985, the Rose served as San Francisco's gay and lesbian cultural center, and was a reliable venue for cabaret and theatre as well as for comedy.

But even as he watched new comics develop in the relative safety of the Rose, Ammiano was becoming the figurehead of (and sometimes the guinea pig for) the proposition that the local comedy scene could be integrated. When the owners of many "mainstream" clubs still consider gay and lesbian comics to be "specialty" acts, however, that struggle has been mostly uphill. It is particularly fitting, then, that Ammiano's new show now finds its way into a venue like the Eureka Theatre.

Says Ammiano, "Tenacity is the key. Some of us have a lot of tenacity. As my mother used to say, you got a bug up your ass and you keep doing it. It helps if it's part of your nature. I've never had to get a hernia trying to be something."

At the same time, Ammiano acknowledges, "people still come up to me and say, 'So-and-so told me I shouldn't be gay or I'll never have a career as a comedian, and what should I do?' And I say, 'Well, I'm gay and I'm doing what I'm doing, and I don't think it's so bad. Why not watch and see?'"

Tom Ammiano appears in "Take My Umbrage, Please" and *Pouf Positive* March 27, April 2 and 3, at the Eureka Theatre. Box office, 558-9811.

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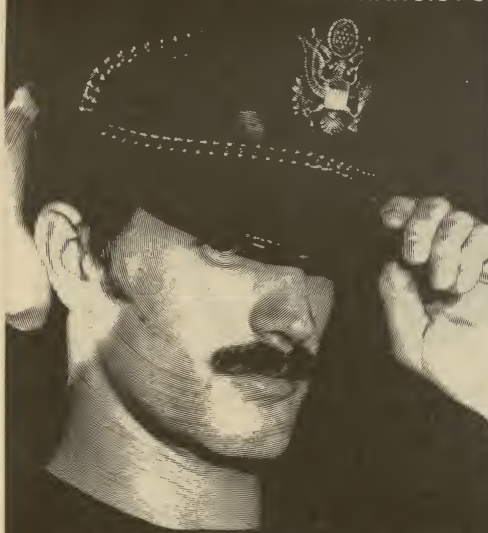
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TELEVISION



Kevin Shaw, left, with producer/creator David Gadberry in a scene from *Secret Passions*.

In-Laws and Other Melodramas

by Henry Mach

If it weren't for the talent involved, it would be easy to dismiss *Andre's Mother* (March 28, 9 p.m., April 1, 3 p.m., Channel 9).

A slight story about an AIDS widower trying to communicate with his deceased lover's hard-assed mother, PBS's *American Playhouse* has managed to do an "AIDS drama" with the gay relationship off-screen and the messier aspects of the disease invisible.

I can't imagine anyone who's experienced the realities of this epidemic being excited over the scenario of *Andre's Mother*. Worse still, there is nothing here that might in any way shake up the complacent population at large.

However, there is the talent, and that cannot be easily dismissed. Three of the most skilled craftspeople in New York theatre are together on *Andre's Mother*: actors Sada Thompson and Richard Thomas, with playwright Terence McNally.

Well before she began her Emmy-winning role in the 1970s TV series *Family*, I heard Thompson hailed as one of the best American actresses ever to play Broadway. She is radiant here in the role of the mother. Anyone who has ever taken an acting class should watch her to learn how much power can be contained in the act of not crying.

Richard Thomas has the thankless role of Andre's lover, eager to ingratiate himself, trying too hard to make conversation.

Sometimes too talky, the dialogue occasionally becomes so meandering and low-key as to seem pointless; in one scene with a gay waiter, it becomes clunky and unbelievable.

I would not be quick to fault McNally, one of my favorite playwrights since he was a young Turk in the '60s, known throughout his career for being sexy, daring and outrageous. In this case, I'd be curious about the drama off-screen, when the PBS establishment negotiated just what they were willing to show in this token acknowledgment of AIDS.

Ultimately, McNally has crafted a script about things not said. Andre's mother denies her son is gay and then denies he is sick. In all she does not say, Thompson is eloquent. One tear, one movement of her gloved hand—for this I would watch *Andre's Mother* again.

No Joan Collins

When Phil Donahue showed his audience a clip from the gay soap opera *Secret Passions*, there was laughter, squirming and some razzing at the end. The scene showed two men after sex.

The one leaving the bed snaps, "First you bitch because we never do it. Then we do it and you bitch because it doesn't last for 12 hours."

The other whines in reply, "You know, Neil, I know you've heard of foreplay. But have you ever heard of afterplay?"

Donahue used the advent of this public access cable show to launch yet another debate on homosexuality, with *Secret Passions*' creator, producer, star David Gadberry (he was the whiney one in the bed) as a guest panelist.

I'd be interested in a scientific experiment that would have these same lines repeated with the same intonation by a heterosexual couple. I believe the audience would giggle, squirm and razz.

There is a difference between an audience being

homophobic and reacting to silliness. And there are some lines that only Joan Collins could pull off.

However, I am interested in seeing the pilot episode of *Secret Passions*, premiering locally at the I-Beam party, Thursday, March 29, where David Gadberry will be a special guest.

If the series gets situated on San Francisco cable, I expect some of the bars that used to show *Dynasty* might start *Secret Passions* fan clubs.

There is a market for silliness, as long as it doesn't take itself too seriously.

Courtroom AIDS-phobia

L.A. Law is one TV series that likes to take itself seriously. Its March 15 episode had Victor Sifuentes (Jimmy Smits) defending a doctor in a lawsuit brought by the widow of a person with AIDS. It seems that this heterosexual married man (infected by a blood transfusion) had been given a few months to live, but died perhaps prematurely because this doctor refused to operate on a person with AIDS.

Sifuentes, who usually takes preposterously self-righteous stances, defended the doctor by saying: "We don't know how you get it, or how you don't get it. But we do know that once you get it you're going to die.... When it comes to AIDS, we're dealing with death." (Continued on page 48)



Richard Thomas lunches with Sada Thompson, middle, and Sylvia Sidney in *Andre's Mother*.

Strictly Summer Camp

by John F. Karr

Rumor has it that the local company of Charles Busch's *Psycho Beach Party*, which opened last weekend at the Zephyr Theatre, requested that the author not come see this production of his play. Wish they'd offered the same un-invitation to me.

Those who have had the pleasure of seeing the artfully understated performances of Mr. Busch may understand the potential delights of the script he tailor made for himself. In its collection of cliches from "Gidget" and "Beach Blanket" movies, with a healthy dose of multiple personality shockers, *Psycho Beach Party* tells the tale of Chicklet, a flat-chested girl (a one-note performance by a male, Van Eric Hausman), who wants to be popular with the beach boys and learn how to surf.

But first Chicklet must escape her tyrannical Mother (Sarah Huntington Rossell), as narrow as an exclamation point and almost as surprising), and resolve her own split personalities. It must be fun to see the deft Mr. Busch jump from prim Chicklet to sex-crazed Mistress to black jive-talker to hurt child.

Heavy-handed in Every Way

But Director Jon Rauwerda has mitigated that fun in the local production, showing little understanding of the spoof's nature. It is badly cast, costumed and choreographed, and is loud, coarse, heavy-handed in every way, and, above all, un-gay. Rauwerda and his players show no knowledge of the layers of awareness which comprise the gay acting style spawned by the drag queens of yore and formalized by the Cockettes and Charles Ludlam. Absent from this production is a fondness for the original source material, a satire of it beyond the mouthing of its cliches, and, above all, a commenting distance on the performance itself.

Believe it or not, Rauwerda and company play the show straight, as if it were a revival of *The Odd Couple*, or some such. It's a terminal failure, for there isn't really much script here at all, and the success of the show hangs on the style with which it is played. That style is camp, and the current company just doesn't understand what that is, or could be.

If this version was playing in a Tenderloin storefront it might float. But in a mainstream house, where it is affecting the gloss—and price—of a mainstream evening at the theatre, it is woefully amateurish. The script itself, though hardly a classic, might prove a romp in the hands of the right, cunning company. The director could have unleashed Doris Fish, Miss X, et al., on the world in a script that cries for them, and had a great success. Just imagine Tippi as Chicklet! The Zephyr production, however, is strictly summer camp.



"Star Cat," "Chicklet" and "Kanaka" romp in *Psycho Beach Party*. (Photo: Janet Van Horn)

Weighed in the Water

by John F. Karr

If 50 golden oldie pop tunes of the 1950s and '60s strung together in a satirical, yet loving cartoon-style musical is your idea of fun, you'll love *Suds*.

You'll love the clashing pastel colors of the cartoon laundromat, the big hairdos of the women and their cartoon '50s clothes. You'll laugh at the exaggerated simplicity of their playing style, and find the plot marvelously perky—it's about a girl who loses her lover, family and dog on her birthday, and who is saved from suicide by two cheerily tune-filled guardian angels.

I was keen on the idea, but fell out when seeing its execution. The dialogue in *Suds* is little more than a series of lead-ins, and telegraphs—in the most obvious manner—the upcoming song. With both surprise and suspense eliminated, one is left merely awaiting the next song cue.

The song itself—or at least, all of it—becomes superfluous. Despite its intentions, and its foresworn love of its material, *Suds* is less an homage to its songs than just another

jukebox of oldies.

Is Good Enough?

It's true that the cast, band and the arrangements are good—especially the way the cast mimics the original performance styles of every group in a 20-year period. But is good enough? Knowing the material as we do, we need great performances. We need a Val Diamond to growl from the gut. And what we get is—good.

It wasn't enough for me, and I left at intermission, after an hour of oldies. There's some sort of unwritten rule that a reviewer should disqualify himself from writing if he doesn't see the whole show. Those who stayed tell me act two is more of act one. And isn't leaving at intermission a review in itself?

Maybe you'll have to make up your own mind (see paragraph one). But in the town where *Beach Blanket Babylon* was born, this "Hit Parade" lacked a high enough level of cleverness to entertain me. But I'm picky. Or jaded. Many others are finding the

(Continued on page 47)

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Ant Is Back

by David Taylor-Wilson

It's been since 1985's *Vive Le Rock* that we last heard from Adam Ant, but now the man is back and sounding better than ever.

Ant's new album, *Manners and Physique*, showcases an updated, modern day man at his very best. It also serves as a testament from a man who refuses to rest on his past accomplishments. In a telephone conversation from Los Angeles, Ant told the Beat, "I'm just looking forward into the '90s, and trying to do a record that hopefully doesn't sound like other people. You've got to continually change and move on. There's no point in standing still or up against the wall with the same ideas."

About the five-year absence from the music industry, Ant says that with his new album, "I feel like a silent movie actor coming back and making his first color talkie, and it's a good challenge."

As soon as you pick up the album and look at the styling of the front and back photography, you become immediately aware of the difference in visual projection this album has from past projects.

Interest in 18th Century

Says Ant, "A lot of the influences in the record result from my interest in the 18th century, especially in England, when in those days they referred to society as 'manners and morals,' whereas in the 20th



The newly returned Adam Ant.

(Photo: Chris Cuffaro)

century we seem to be more concerned with the way we look. And so I came up with *Manners and Physique*.

"The dogs (on the album's back cover) are mine. I was studying portraits of the (18th century) period, and what I noticed about them was that, opposed to modern day photography, in those days you were placed among surroundings that told you a bit about what they did. And they always in-

cluded their animals. It had a type of quality to it which I wanted to use with a photographer."

Apart from Ant's former projects, the new album carries the definite musical stamp of producer Andre Cymone, who in the past was part of the musical troop associated with Prince and The Time. Lately, Cymone has been identified as the driving force behind the success of Jody Watley.

We wondered how a guy like Adam Ant comes to connect with a rocking funkster like Cymone.

Ant explains, "We were both originally with CBS Records, and I was aware of his talent as both a solo artist and with Prince. I'd also seen him perform live. We met about 2 1/2 years ago in Los Angeles when he was working with Jody, and we started talking about music and ideas, and what we liked. And over that period of time he would send me an occasional cassette of a backing track and ask me if I had a lyric that could be put in it.

"So it happened like that. Initially it was just a collaboration, 'cause I had already put some songs together. In fact, I already had half the album done by then. So after Andre finished work with Jody, and I was looking for someone to produce it, I was lucky that he had the time, and he wanted to do it.

"This is a record where, with the new label, and the time that I've been away from it all, that somehow it makes it easier to pick and choose who you want to work with, and I decided I wanted to work with the best people, so I did."

The first single from the album, "Room At The Top," has been steadily moving up the charts. An enticing number with a dance beat, Ant summarizes, "It's generally about life. It's me reminding me about what's gotta be done. It's the top of whatever craft you're in. If you approach your craft like they did in the 18th century, without the flattery and esoterica, as if I've been blessed with this gift and that gift... it's work, and you've got to get on with it and get better at it. And if you approach it that way, in the end, you'll meet your goal.

"Room At The Top," I think, is very optimistic, which I think is very appropriate for the '90s, because I think it's a very optimistic era: Mandela, The Wall, and people's consciousness of issues now that people wouldn't have bothered with before."

In Other Beats

Back with her fourth album, and a new label (EMI), Dianne Reeves continues to produce excellent results. *Never Too Far* remains true to Reeves' jazz roots while at the same time spotlighting her three-plus octave range in more soulful surroundings. There will be those who will say she is crossing over, but with talent like this there are no musical boundaries or categories.

Currently making inroads and commanding a lot of chart time is Atco recording artist Michel'le. Her newly released debut album *Michel'le* contains her first single release, "No More Lies," as well as the new release, "Nicety."

Both numbers are slamming, funky, dance tunes that carry a strong attitude of female independence without being bitchy. Aretha did it in the '60s with "Chain Of Fools" and "Respect," and now Michel'le is here to do it in the '90s. Check out the thumpin' "100% Woman," which is destined to be a hit, but don't be quick to write her off as simply a dance artist. The album contains lush, fiery ballads with so much emotion that it's hard to believe this girl is only



Dianne Reeves

18 years old. We couldn't find one weak song on this album. A hell of a debut.

Deja-New?

One of the fastest breaking dance singles in the past month comes from the 49'ers. It's entitled, "Touch." This Italian-import probably never figured on making it stateside, but it's been picked up for domestic distribution by 4th & Broadway Records.

The first time we listened to this record it was unbelievable. Sampling bits and pieces of other recordings and using them to accent another recording is one thing, but to sample practically an entire vocal chorus, alter the pitch a little, and then throw in your own singer here and there is very brave.

If you haven't recognized Aretha Franklin's voice in sheer abundance here (sampled from "Rock-A-Lot"), then you're overdue for a hearing check. Franklin's voice is so evident she should have been given credit on the label.

Now the record, on the other hand is a great dance number. Simple, but it nevertheless has all the ingredients to keep a dance floor moving. We suggest that if you haven't already bought a copy of this, you'd better buy one now. Soon enough the people at Arista Records will get wind of "Touch" and then it'll turn into one big lawsuit.



Michel'le

Little Beats

Is the rumor true? We heard from an inside source that the first outing of the Janet Jackson Rhythm Nation Tour was a mess. Not only was she not singing live, she apparently was lip-synching, and someone had cued the vocal tracks so that the timing didn't match the music. It didn't get corrected until after three or four songs, meanwhile the audience sat scratching their heads trying to figure out what was going on. Hmmm.

The Rear-View

Ten years ago this week, "Call Me" by Blondie from the motion picture *American Gigolo* was the No. 1 single in America. Meanwhile, Pink Floyd continued to hold onto the No. 1 album position with *The Wall*. ▼

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Those Second Tier Audiences

by George Heymont

During Opera America's recent annual conference, I spent some time talking with Martin Feinstein, general director of the Washington Opera, about the fact that many opera lovers can no longer afford to purchase tickets to performances by major opera companies. For a variety of reasons (economic pressures, family responsibilities, their lack of time, geographic isolation or a sheer unwillingness to commute back and forth to the theater) these people have been priced out of the opera house.

That hasn't diminished their love for opera, however, and many happily attend performances of what some people in the business call "second tier" attractions. These offerings can range from free events (such as the Merola Grand Finals or Summer Opera in Stern Grove) to relatively inexpensive performances by Donald Pippin's Pocket Opera and Opera San Jose. Or they can take the form of touring performances by Texas Opera Theater, concert readings by Eve Queler's Opera Orchestra of New York, and rare works from the chamber opera repertoire being performed by young artists in the San Francisco Opera Center.

Whenever one attends such performances, one quickly realizes that the audience's expectations and the dynamics of the event are quite different from what one encounters in the opera house. The audience, as a rule, tends to be older, sometimes gayer, and decidedly more educated than those who visit the Opera House for vicarious thrills and a quick society column fuck. Instead, their enthusiasm for the music is real; their willingness to be more lenient in their criticism genuinely well-intended. Occasionally, when sparks fly on the stage—and they do—this audience feels as if it has discovered a budding young talent before the "big guys" of the industry descend to snatch up some fresh meat for a commercial killing.

On The Road Again

In January, I traveled to Santa Rosa with some friends to attend a Western Opera Theater performance of *Carmen* which was staged before an enthusiastic audience in the Luther Burbank Center for the Arts (a former church). WOT's traveling unit set and skeleton cast included singers who were in last year's Merola Finals and are now working their way up the ladder in hopes of becoming Adler Fellows. Some were obviously new at the game; others were already showing signs of the professional wear and tear that accompanies touring. Some (like comprimario tenor Bill Saetre—whom I first encountered at Canada's Banff Summer Opera Festival) were making the most of their performance opportunity; others were not fully "there."

Although I was less than impressed with Dennis McNeil's Don Jose and Pamela King's Carmen, Angela Randell's Micaela (although cursed with the wig from hell) displayed a promising lyric soprano. Conductor David Abell's spirited

work on the podium, combined with the newness of the experience for many people in the audience, made me realize that while I may have experienced more performances of *Carmen* than I care to remember, a great deal of discovery was happening for the people in attendance that night.

What got my juices flowing was watching a young singer named Cherie Caluda who, single-handedly, walked off with the performance. Although that night Caluda was singing the role of Frasquita (one of the minor gypsies in Bizet's opera), she is such an intense stage animal—and was so theatrically "into" what she was doing—that she reminded me of what it was like to watch the young Barbra Streisand performing the role of Miss Marmelstein in *I Can Get It For You Wholesale*. While Caluda's intense focus and concentration threw the rest of the performance out of whack,

there is no denying the fact that this girl has charisma. I'd be very curious to see where she ends up in five years.

Veteran Affairs

While Caluda is, by professional standards, a mere babe in the woods, San Francisco's Lamplighters have been going about their business for thirty-eight years. As the unofficial keepers of the Savoyard flame, this volunteer troupe usually does a stunning job of performing Gilbert & Sullivan operettas. Like many other "second tier" attractions, the Lamps have developed a loyal and knowledgeable audience that supports them with a great deal of enthusiasm and love. That special kind of devotion was evident on their recent opening night of *The Mikado*, when several costumes came apart and other minor flubs (the kind that might have sunk less professional performers) were handled with a great deal of skill and stage savvy.



Ko-Ko (Rick Williams) and Katisha (Marcia Hunt) play the newlywed game in the Lamplighters' production of *The Mikado*.
(Photo: Peter Donaldson)

Dan Gensemer's Nanki-Poo and Karen Tesitor's Yum-Yum offered appealing romantic leads. However, David Lamm's Pish-Tush was no vocal match for J. Geoffrey Colton's sneering and well-sung Pooh-Bah. While this year's *Mikado* offered truly fabulous costume work by the ever resourceful Beaver Bauer (and some really incredible make-up designs by Jaymes-Mark Williams) there were times when the performance suffered from much

too much "busyness." From Rick Williams' animated portrayal of Ko-Ko right down to the antics of the Mikado's two bodyguards, there was too much nervous energy on the stage.

In such situations, the dramatic energy gets too scattered and the actors portraying the Mikado and Katisha usually walk off with the show. That's exactly what veteran Lamplighters William Neill

(Continued on page 39)



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Powerful Prose

Trash
by Dorothy Allison, Firebrand Books, 1988, \$8.95.

by Steve Abbott

Sometimes I'm slow in getting to books everybody else is raving about, especially stories. People who write stories, well, make me jealous because I can't. My stories always wander and digress into other stories until they become a novel (if I'm lucky). But a good story collection coalesces in the same way; it can bring a larger universe to life.

Dorothy Allison's *Trash* is the most powerful prose I've read in some time. Almost every sentence rings authoritatively and is rooted in bodily experience. Whereas much gay/lesbian fiction has assumed a middle or upper class existence (or is centered in urban gay ghettos), Allison writes about growing up in a poor family in the South. She doesn't explain when, how or why her narrator "comes out" either—she just does—which I also like.

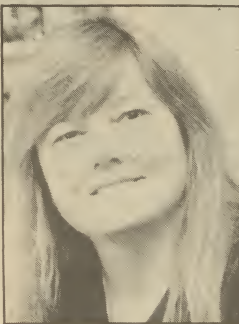
Allison doesn't mythopoeticize or valorize her social origins as do Faulkner, McCullers or Flannery O'Connor. Her characters don't dream "what if the South won" or compare their sufferings to those of Jesus. They're too busy trying to survive poverty, alcoholism, wife and child abuse.

Mask Ripped Off

Southern Gothic romanticizes experience. Allison rips off the mask of such sentimentality as embedded in genteel literature, TV sitcoms like *The Beverly Hillbillies* and GOP campaign ads. Her pain and rage "cleanse the doors of perception" as William Blake says.

"A River of Names" pours forth just like a river:

I've these pictures my mama



Dorothy Allison
(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

gave me—stained sepia prints of bare dirt yards, plank porches, and step after step of children. . . . We were so many we were without number and, like tadpoles, if there was one less from time to time, who counted? . . . They died and were not missed. I come from an enormous family and cannot tell half their stories. Somehow it was always made to seem they killed themselves: car wrecks, shotguns, dusty ropes, screaming, falling out of windows, things inside them. I am the point of a pyramid, sliding back under the weight of the ones who came after, and it does not matter that I am the lesbian, the one who will not have children.

The story is a catalog of rapes, of women and children brutalized, of suicides. It gushes over the boundaries of genre like a nightmare painted by Hieronymus Bosch. The only thing I can compare it to is holocaust writing, and like Tadeusz Borowski, the only way Allison keeps her sanity is in her careful attention to detail. (e.g., "Nattie scooped up

more rice so that her cheeks bulged out," "There was a kind of laugh in her belly that wanted to roll out of her mouth, but she held it in," "Anna grinned wider still and used her elbow to wipe sweat off her eyebrows.")

Anger as Sign of Caring

Despite the pain and horror of her social reality, Allison cares about her family. Anger is itself a sign of this caring. And when Allison generalizes, the reader feels she has earned the right because of this attention to detail. (e.g., "My mama's philosophy was bitter and thin. She didn't give a damn if she was ever born again, she just didn't want to be born again poor and wanting," "Food is more than sustenance; it is history.")

Allison thus follows in the footsteps of great political writers such as Meridel Le Sueur, Judy Judy Grahn and Karen Brodine because her politics aren't abstract or preachy but are rooted in bodily experience ("Her eyes threw the word family at me like a spear").

The strongest stories for me are those which center on one character or set of relationships ("The Meanest Woman Ever Left Tennessee," "Mama," "I'm Working on My Charm," "Don't Tell Me You Don't Know," "Monkeybites"). A few pieces ("A Lesbian Appetite," "Lupus") read more like prose poems or workbook exercises. "Gospel Song," about the narrator's friendship with an albino girl the other kids tease, is one of the most powerful in the collection though it wanders in places.

Taken as a whole, however, I admire the risks Allison takes. She dives into each story with a no-holds-barred honesty and her lesbian sex scenes are hot and steamy.

But what finally makes Dorothy Allison one of our major voices for the '90s is the legitimacy she gives our anger. Anger is often considered an

(Continued on next page)

Bisexual Cyberpunk

Bad Voltage: A Fantasy in 4/4
by Jonathan Littell, Signet, \$3.95.

by James Tushinski

For the uninitiated, a little history before we proceed. Once upon a time, the science fiction literary world was starved for something new, something that would tap into the high-tech possibilities of today's world and extend them into a bleak, punk-influenced future.

In 1984, William Gibson's *Neuromancer* appeared and "cyberpunk" was born.

Jonathan Littell's *Bad Voltage* is heavily influenced by Gibson and though I'm sure Littell, like Gibson, bristles at the mention of the label, his novel is cyberpunk through and through. *Bad Voltage* shares the good and bad aspects of this sub-genre while adding an interesting new element. Littell's narrator, a dreadlock-sporting, anti-gravity skating juvenile delinquent named Lynx, is in love with a man.

Lynx and his lover, Mara, are members of the Livewires, a pack of teenage dropouts who inhabit the catacombs under Paris in the early 21st century. When Mara is killed during one of the Livewires' anti-gravity skating melees on the Champs Elysees, Lynx's grief causes him to become an emotional zombie.

He drifts into an affair with one of the wealthiest women in the world, heiress to the fortune of the man who invented anti-gravity devices, and soon finds himself enmeshed in a deadly game of cat-and-mouse when he breaks off the relationship and steals a mysterious amulet Angelique always wears around her neck. She wants the amulet and Lynx back, at any cost.

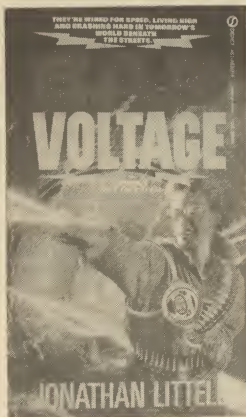
Standard Trappings

All the standard cyberpunk trappings are in evidence: human beings reserved as computer programs; a global computer network that can be entered and navigated like a three-dimensional grid; jaded, cynical characters; fabulously wealthy and decadent families living in holographically booby-trapped mazes; surgically implanted jacks for downloading software directly into the brain; Japanese brand names.

Aside from Lynx's incidental bisexuality, Littell offers few innovations. What he does excel at, however, is creating a believably gritty reality, complete with its own elaborate slang and jargon that are never explained but nevertheless become clear in context.

This creation of a believable reality is always a crucial element in any fiction, but becomes particularly important in science fiction and fantasy. Littell has learned his lessons well. He skillfully extrapolates from the current state of technology, business and pop culture, mixing names of music groups, songs, corporations and products we recognize with other names so similar and imaginatively created that we feel we should recognize them.

The slang is an integrated amalgamation, part surfer-boy, part computer industry with



big dollops of Jamaican argot, Franco-Japanese and Rambo-style military weapon jargon.

At Odds With Itself

But *Bad Voltage* is a novel at odds with itself. The story and the action sequences, the extreme violence and heavy-metal nihilism are definitely aimed at the teenage male market (a designation that can cross age and sex lines, defining as it does a specific mentality). This is particularly evident in Littell's absurd reticence in describing Lynx and Mara's sex life "sleeping together" is as explicit as it gets in contrast to the Mickey Spillane soft-core porno writing used to describe Lynx and Angelique in bed ("jutting nipples hard against my tongue as I nuzzled her perfect champagne-glass breasts").

In spite of these concessions, Littell drops hints that he really wants the book to go beyond the standard paperback sci-fi fare. First there's the novel's subtitle, specifying a rock tempo. Littell even supplies a list of the music he listened to while writing the book so the reader can presumably create a multimedia experience.

There are the references to William Burroughs' *Naked Lunch*, to Jean Cocteau and H.P. Lovecraft scattered throughout the novel. Finally, the most telling evidence of high literary aspirations appears before the book even begins — lengthy epigrams from Jean Genet and Charles Baudelaire.

In French, no less. I'm not objecting to these touches in their own right. It's just that given the obvious mass-market bent of the novel they smack of pretentiousness rather than artistic flare.

Still, there's nothing really wrong with *Bad Voltage*. It's entertaining and predictable science fiction that's skillfully done, perfect throw-away vacation/commuter reading. It doesn't deliver the shock-of-the-new that William Gibson's *Neuromancer* did, but that's to be expected of novels by authors who jump on an innovative bandwagon regardless how talented said authors might be.

For those readers unfamiliar and intrigued with cyberpunk, I offer some humble book-consumption advice: devour Gibson's *Neuromancer* first and save *Bad Voltage* for the second course. ▼

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Deviant Among Deviants

by Ron Bluestein

Two controversial and iconoclastic San Franciscans, playwright Robert Chesley (*Stray Dog Story*, *Jerker*, *Night Sweat*) and photographer Mark I. Chester, join forces as model and artist in the photo exhibit "Stretching Reality," which opens March 24 at 1229 Folsom.

The photographs, taken over a period of eight years in different places and different moods record both a public friendship (Chester has made it plain that his exhibit is a homage to his friend) and a private face and fetish.

The word "private" is key: Chesley has allowed Chester to anatomize not only his privates, but his private turn-on, men in tights (*Stretching Reality*), and his private illness, AIDS. Tights, lesions, and erections are unapologetically exposed and juxtaposed. The exhibit is unabashedly erotic.

As they've done singly in the past, Chesley and Chester together promise once again to dichotomize the gay community (at least its writers of criticism and letters to editors) into those who want, to quote the *Radical Faeries' Journal*, *Nomennews*, "an increasingly respectable and mainstream gay culture" and those who long for "a glimpse of what respectability and mainstreamism have failed to inspire."

Did Chesley have to overcome resistances and repressions to allow these photos taken and exhibited? Is it frightening to go so public with K.S. lesions? What does it all mean? Chesley, attired in tight T-shirt and oversized Superman wristwatch, discussed these questions with me last week.

Sense of Connection

"Photographs have been part of my friendship with Mark all along," Chesley said. And because it's Mark, some of the subjects that he wants to get from people are going to be erotic. I really think that what Mark wants to do, whether it's a portrait or if it's a sexual thing or whatever, is to get the trust from the subject that lets the true self of that subject be shown.

Trash

(Continued from previous page)

inappropriate emotion. We're told to be nice, that America will accept us if we only try harder to assimilate. But anger is sometimes the only tool that can correct social injustice. In Allison's words:

Make me mad, and I'll curse you to the seventh generation in my mama's voice. But you have to work to get me mad. I measure my anger against my mama's rages and her insistence that most people aren't even worth your time. "We are another people. Our like isn't seen on the earth that often," my mama told me, and I knew what she meant. I knew the value of the hard asses of this world.

"Mark does not pose his photographs. Instead what he wants is that sense of connection. It's a type of lovemaking. Another aspect of the friendship has been, of course, Mark's impulse to lead anyone to honest dealing with their sexuality, uncovering layers of guilt and shame and fear and getting down to an honest expression of one's unique sexuality."

I mentioned that the record of his lesions might just invoke feelings of guilt and shame and fear in the viewer, especially K.S. lesions, and Chesley finished my sentence: "In an erotic context. Lesions and a hard beep." We chuckled and the exchange continued:

Bluestein: "Your hard beep!"

Chesley: "My hard beep! What's more wearing spandex!"

Bluestein: "A lot of people won't like that. I think you're saying... Well, what do you think you're saying?"



Robert Chesley says photographer Mark Chester helped the playwright accept his turn-ons. (Photo: Mark Chester)

Chesley paused a moment and said, "Once you're expelled from the Golden Land of the Healthy — that rather illusory land — you're not really supposed to have a complete life. Your illness can become a dominant characteristic. There are ways of dealing with it. You can be in the closet about your illness, and a lot of people are. There was a panel, 'AIDS and The Responsibility of The Writer,' at the recent writer's conference here, and not one of the writers spoke as a person with AIDS. Not one person said, 'I have this disease and the world is different now,' and one of them is HIV positive. It's interesting."

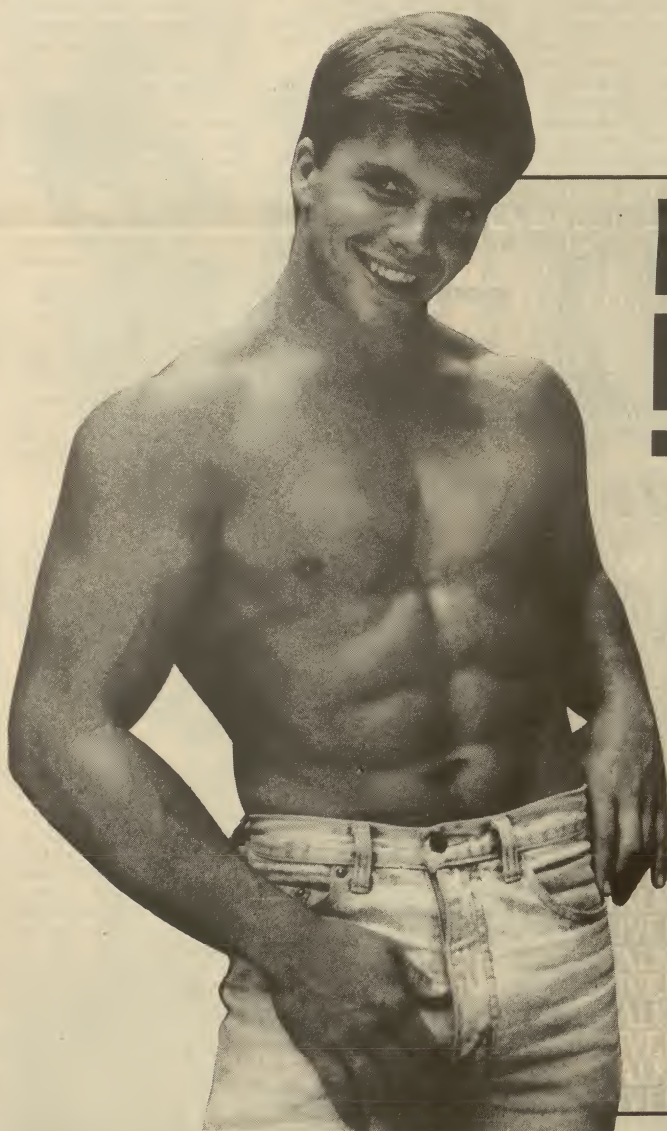
Lesions Disturbing

Chesley admitted that his lesions are disturbing to other people.

"The lesions are disturbing to me to some extent," he said, "but I've gotten used to it, and I'm not as upset by the sight of lesions now. I wonder how many people are hiding away? You don't see lesions on other people."

"How many guys when they get visible AIDS cut themselves off on the basis of their looks? We are isolating ill people and keeping them invisible in ways which really are unnecessary as far as letting people have lives. It's a two-way

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People of Color

(Continued from page 30)

fluent in more than just the Western canon of literature.

Goldsby believes in establishing a canon of gay literature, she said, but the danger in doing so is that when one makes up a list of 'great books' or talks about the essential writers to read, one is making a choice — a choice that excludes. She is concerned that race will be what is excluded from the gay canon, and that it will be excluded by conflating it with racism.

Race/Racism Different

For Goldsby, race and racism are two different things: "Race is about me speaking out of the 'is-ness' of my blackness, and I think that there's a way in which sometimes, in this wonderfully inclusive gay and lesbian environment we have, folks don't want to hear that. Folks don't want to hear me talk about my blackness where I don't have to footnote what my references are."

Racism on the other hand, she said, is about an ideology and a practice that would exclude that voice. Goldsby also said that it was important that gays and lesbians of color not abandon the critical essay as a literary option because it is imperative that they "don't leave it to white gay and lesbian historians and film and literary critics to explain ourselves to ourselves, to leave it to them to talk about what race means to people of color."

Tomas Almaguer, also an *Out/Look* editor, and a sociology teacher at U.C. Ber-

keley, commented on social science literature. The courses he teaches are centered around gender and sexuality, and he said that there is "a disquieting silence in social science literature of voices of color" and that the concerns of the literature do not speak to a Third World reality in a fundamental way.

An 83-year-old Mexican poet showed Francisco Alarcon that it was possible to be gay, be part of the Latino/a community, and be true to oneself.

Dave Frechette, a New York journalist and writer whose work has appeared in *Other Countries*, called his presentation "Semi-Random Notes on Gay Literary Apartheid (Situation Serious, But Not Hopeless)." Frechette mentioned several books and anthologies without black or black-identified contributors such as *Personal Dispatches: Writers Confront AIDS*, *Gay Spirits: Myth and Meaning*, and *Out Front: Contemporary Gay and Lesbian Plays*.

Frechette labelled as the "60 Minute Deadline Syndrome," the times when a white editor waits until the 50th second of the last minute to contact the black gay and lesbian community to ask for submissions, and the "James Baldwin Syndrome," wherein only one or two poets or novelists are considered to be at the same level as the white gay literary establishment and are promoted to

the detriment of other gay and lesbian writers of color.

Crown Has Been Bought

Evelyn White, a writer at the *San Francisco Chronicle* and the editor of an anthology of writing on black women's health issues that is to be published this year, took a different approach to the issue of racism in gay and lesbian literature and media. She said that every time she thought of the panel's title she chanted a statement by James Baldwin

like a mantra: "Our crown has already been bought and paid for, all we have to do is wear it."

White said that she repeatedly hears the same old stuff about how gay and lesbian writers of color are discriminated against, are excluded, aren't in the books and anthologies, and that she's sick of it because the white gay and lesbian literature and media never meant to include people of color so why do gays of color keep battling their heads up against walls to get their work into places like *The Advocate*.

"We have somehow gotten the message that if our work is not in *The Advocate* or *Christopher Street* that our work is not valuable," White said.

She also questioned the fact that writers of color would want to be included in the white gay literature and media. She said that writers of color should take care of them-

selves rather than waiting to be accepted by the white gay literary establishment.

Latino/Latina Voices

The second panel to deal specifically with gays and lesbians of color was "Lenguas en Llamas: Latino/a Voices." The panel included four authors who had emerged from the Mexican, Chicano, and Puerto Rican cultures, "standing at the borders of race, sexuality, and gender," sharing their journey and the road ahead.

Francisco X. Alarcon, whose *Body in Flames/Cuerpo en Llamas* is the first book published in the U.S. by an openly-gay Chicano writer, started the panel off by saying that he really identified with the session's title. He spoke of how his coming out in San Francisco was marked by being asked for several pieces of ID at a club, which made him feel like he couldn't participate in the gay mecca that was San Francisco because of his race. This caused him to rethink his relationship with society.

Alarcon described meeting an 83-year-old Mexican poet who had also been a famous doctor (whose patients had included Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo) and that this man had helped him to resolve his conflict about coming out as a Chicano gay man. The poet, who had had a successful career as both a doctor and a writer, showed him that it was possible to be gay, be part of the Latino/a community, and be true to oneself.

Despite his coming out, Alarcon said that the progressive left forces in the Chicano liberation movement are still oppressive to gay and lesbian Latinos, and that they do not want to deal with the subject of sexuality.

"It's just outrageous that in 1990, still in certain academic circles, the issue of sexuality — the issue of homosexuality — is still a taboo."

Alarcon also said that although there was tremendous growth in writing by Latina writers — "a blooming of Chicana voices," that the picture was very disturbing for Chicano writers because there was an absence of male voices.

The Double "L"

Luz Maria Umpierre-Herrera, a Puerto Rican poet, called her presentation "The Double L — Latina and Lesbian." She said that "poetry is the only viable way I have of showing the effects that exile has had on me as a triple minority: Puerto Rican, woman, and lesbian. My poetry is an accusation which I wish to make of those who on a daily basis attempt to steal my identity, both as a lesbian and a Latina."

Umpierre-Herrera said that there have been three stages to her writing. The first stage was an effort to deal with racism in the United States. She said that she wanted to write poems that made a political statement using a format that normally was not perceived as political.

The second stage of her writing dealt with fears of coming out as a lesbian. Some of her poems during this period spoke not only of that fear, but also the lure of suicide.

It was during this time that Umpierre-Herrera was being harassed out of her position at Rutgers University because of her open views on lesbian and gay issues and her defense of minority women. This experience was crucial in the writing



Chronicle's Evelyn White
(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

of The Margarita Poems.

In the third stage of her writing, Umpierre-Herrera deals with the subject of women and death and is being influenced not only by meditations on her own mortality, but by women, who are now dead, who have had a powerful effect on her life.

Rosa Maria Roffiel, a widely published Mexican feminist poet whose book *Amora* is the first Latin American lesbian-feminist novel, spoke on her experience as a lesbian writer in a very Catholic and macho country. She first published a lesbian poem in 1983 in a Mexican feminist magazine, but when a friend tried to get it published in a magazine that was considered the most progressive, liberal one at that time, it was rejected.

The editors told her that a poem dealing with female sexuality and sexual organs could not appear in a decent magazine, though almost every week they published poems dealing with male sexuality and sexual organs.

Counteracting Negative Images

Roffiel talked about her book and how she gave it a happy ending and positive portrayals of lesbians to counteract the negative images of lesbians in Mexico. She said that male critics have viciously criticized her book. One, she said, wondered how lesbians in the book could be pretty and happy when everybody knew that they were "ugly, bitter, and rottenly unhappy."

At the same time she has been getting negative reviews of her book from critics, she has been receiving letters, calls, and messages from women thanking her for writing a book "in which, for the first time in their lives, they were finding their own voice, their own way of living and being."

Juan-Jacobo Hernandez, a founder of the Mexican gay movement who launched *Solediciones*, the first Latin American gay publishing house, said that there has been a real boom in Latin American gay literature which is contrary to the experience of most Latin American lesbians and most Latinos in America.

The quantity and quality of art that is being produced by gay men is something that is unique to Mexico and Brazil. Hernandez gave some historical background on "Los Contemporáneos," a seminal group of gay writers and intellectuals in Mexico during the 1930s. He said that these writers were "the true creators of the modern face of Mexican culture" and the origin of what is now the gay artistic boom in Mexico.

(Continued on page 46)

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Erotica is the Food of Life

(Continued on page 29)

Womanlove recently was seized at Australian customs but later released. *The Cunt Coloring Book* was seized on its way to England. And over the years, countless printers have refused to work with Corinne.

But that hasn't stopped Corinne's determination to make lesbian erotica an acceptable part of art. For Corinne, erotica is the "dream food" of existence.

"It isn't enough to be well-clothed and well-housed, you need dreams, you need food for the spirit," Corinne said. "Erotic dreams, erotic fantasies are some of the most powerful."

A prolific author and artist, Corinne contributes erotica to a number of publications, including such recognized mainstream magazines as *Yellow Silk*. In addition, Corinne, 46, is a tireless spokeswoman for the erotic not just in the arts but in life itself.

She defines the erotica—as opposed to pornography—as "art which is about sex that may not necessarily have orgasm as its goal." Corinne also admits that erotica often is on the fine arts end of the same spectrum that includes pornography.

But Corinne also means more than making love when she refers to the erotic. She includes the whole sensual side of nature.

"For me, that means living in a rural environment with wild deer, growing our own vegetables, canning fruits," said Corinne.

"It means exercise—and not on a bicycle but on long walks through the woods. It means being grateful for how beautiful the world is. Springtime is almost an orgy."

Although Corinne lives in the country, she is as much a workaholic as anyone living in the city. But she knows that the way to savor life is to consciously make time for pleasure.

"I love slow Saturday mornings and soft clothes against skin," the author said.

But even for this dedicated sensualist, erotica comes from the mind and the heart as well as the body.

"Part of sexuality is learning how to be loved, learning a

generosity toward life," she said.

And Corinne's art reflects this compassion. Her erotic photographs and stories include what might seem a contradiction in terms to many—older women and women in wheelchairs.

"My work incorporates our scars, our surgeries, our bad histories," Corinne said. "It's important to put erotica in the context of lived lives rather than sheer fantasy."

To do so, Corinne's work also includes erotic and sensual stories for women who have been sexually abused—women who must deal with pain and fear as well as excitement when they face the erotic side of their nature. "Our sex lives don't take place in ethereal other worlds where everything happens perfectly," Corinne said. "People need to find writing that is sexy and safe."

Alcoholic Families

Although Corinne is best known for her lesbian erotica, she currently has an exhibit of

drawings and photographs about alcoholic families. It is on display in the Pacific Northwest. She also is negotiating a book contract for the work.

While she admits art about alcoholism still isn't the type of art that would bring her fortune in mainstream art circles, it is what this artist wants to do.

"I have to do something I care about passionately," Corinne said. "I could get more money and fame if I were committed to content-less art but I don't want my art to be superficial. I want to reach deeper levels of emotion."

Corinne and other women working in this genre are creating a whole new way of looking at lesbian sexuality, one that comes from the woman's experience and reflects that multi-leveled experience. For Corinne, it's a loving but essential crusade.

"Lesbian erotica defines who we are and what our world is," Corinne said.

"Anything we don't have words or images for, we are likely to label 'crazy' or 'bad.'"



Tee Corinne's *Yantras of Womanlove* features seductive, multiple images of lesbian lovemaking.

By making prints and photographs, by writing short stories and editing, Corinne is

bringing lesbian erotica into the open to become a part of the natural joy and flow of life.

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Opera

(Continued from page 35)

and Marcia Hunt did on opening night. Neill's voice and authoritative stage presence fit the title role like a glove; when clad in Beaver Bauer's exquisite Japanese robes he is a sight to behold. As Katisha, Hunt was a delicious mezzo-soprano fright: wonderfully pathetic and touchingly blood-thirsty as the pushy old spinster who has spent too many years as the Mikado's self-proclaimed "daughter-in-law elect." Ms. Hunt lived and breathed her role with the kind of lust to perform that quickly centers a performance. It is always a joy to watch this talented artist work the stage, especially when she is exploring the dramatic territory that suits her to a musical comedy T!



Eve: "Eve is there every day. On some days, she will put on her male drag and cheerfully earn a comfortable living."

Crossdressers

(Continued from page 29)

is lively, trim and sharp-minded. Following are joined excerpts from two interviews with the photographer over the past year.

"I first encountered crossdressers when I was in New Orleans for Mardi Gras. I made friends with someone named Vicky West [the Vicky quoted above], who turned out to live 20 blocks away from me on the Upper West Side in New York. I gradually came to know an ever-growing community.



Bob/Kary at work.

Articulate People

"It took me three years to realize that I had a project of importance. That came about when Vicky took me to Fantasia Fair, which is a nine-day convention of crossdressers in Provincetown. It's an incredible experience. Here were things to understand, a philosophy, and extremely articulate people. I ultimately became the official photographer for Fantasia Fair.

"I've been watching a strong political movement grow over the last decade. In Seattle, they've succeeded in passing a law, for example, that bans discrimination against crossdressers. One crossdresser group there actually meets in the police station. This is a national movement that's just coming out of the closet.

"Now the lesbian, gay and crossdressing communities are trying to build bridges. A recent article in a major crossdressing magazine talked about how crossdressers had to support gay events. Who's going to fight for crossdressers, in the end, in Washington? Where can crossdressers go, especially in the beginning when they're first coming out? Gay bars, cabarets, discos.

"The nitty-gritty of the matter is that anatomy, sexual preference and gender role preference are separate things—they're not intertwined like a pretzel. To me, that's an unbelievably liberating concept.



Mariette Pathy Allen

(Photo: Pamela Camhe)

"When these people are together, there's much more of a physical relationship—not necessarily sexual—than in the rest of society. The feminine clothing acts as a catalyst that allows emotions to flow freely. There's an artistic and sensual aspect to all this.

"I try to take photographs that capture the subject's character. For instance, I think that hands are as expressive as faces. And these people, particularly, put on wonderful rings and other things. I also try to capture what their lives are like. In some cases, I've lived with them for awhile, which is an exciting day of working.

Grant Caused Furor

"I received a grant from the New York State Council of the Arts in '87-88. That caused a furor. The *New York Post* [the third-largest and most conservative of that city's dailies] focused on it as a scandal for a couple of weeks. It was one of the most terrifying experiences I've ever had. It was one of the few times I've encountered pure cruelty, simple evil.

"I had to come to San Francisco a couple of days after that story broke. That turned out to be the best thing that could have happened. One of the best organized and supportive



New Miss ETVC Tiffany.

groups in the country happens to be ETVC, which stands for Educational TV Channel, in San Francisco. I talked to one of the organizers, Ginny, and we decided that we needed a letter writing campaign and that we should create a legal defense fund so that I could pay for lawyers.

"And she did that. People wrote from across the country. Emotionally, I was a wreck for a couple of months, but it turned out OK. I'm eternally grateful to ETVC. By this time, these are people I've spent some time with and I have some good friends in that group.

"I originally met with ETVC through working with [film actress, director and producer] Lee Grant on *What Sex Am I?* I was the still photographer for that. The shooting was in San Francisco, Los Angeles and Texas.

"A lot of crossdressers live in Silicon Valley and a lot of them are in computer work. The Northwest altogether seems to be an area where crossdressing people tend to feel comfortable, compared to other areas of the country. The East Coast is still much more entrenched and puritanical. When you're in a beautiful place like the Bay Area all the time, that has to have a liberating effect."

Allen plans to develop two more projects in this series. One will investigate transsexuals and the other will document performers who appear on stage as their opposite gender. In the process of looking through her current book, the viewer will likely ponder his or her own obsessions with gender identification and wonder at the possibilities. Eventually one begins to wonder what it would be like to live without the constraints of machismo. ▼



"Missy Allison" in an abandoned steel mill.

Bay Area Reporter Sports & Fitness

Tourneys, Gay Games Top Track Season

by Rick Thoman

The 1990 season for the San Francisco Track and Field Club is underway, with the first competition scheduled for April 28 at Cal State University Sacramento.

The SFT&F Club is also slated to compete at the California State Team Championships in Fresno on May 13, the Pacific Association/TAC Championships at Los Gatos on June 9, the Western Regional Championships in San Diego on July 21, the Sept. 2 Rocky Mountain Masters Games and the Oct. 6 Club West Masters meet in Santa Barbara.

The highlight of the season will be the Gay Games in Vancouver, August 4-11. According to SFT&F spokesman Frank Demby, San Francisco's Gay Games track and field contingent may not be as large as previous years, but will have more depth, covering a variety of events.

"At Gay Games I and II, we had a core group of sprinters and a handful of people in the other events. We were really lacking in the men's field events, the hurdles and the distance races. This year, it looks like we'll continue to have a strong sprint squad, but also a great group of women in the field events, a good middle distance and distance squad, as well as a few hurdlers and jumpers," Demby assessed.



Swan Garde Stadium in Vancouver.

Pelletier Leads League At Mid-Season

Luby Pelletier, a founding father of the S.F. Pool Association, leads the league's individuals with a 13-1 record after the first half of the spring season. He plays for the San Marcos Cafe Quackers and is joined on the top 16 list by four of his Division IV teammates.

Hot on Luby's heels is Brandon Bridges, off to his best yet start at 18-2, including three consecutive 4-0s, currently the

"We're still lacking in the men's field events like shot put and discus, and we don't have any women in the longer distances or the jumping events," Demby explained.

He also emphasized that the Club is still open to all who want to participate and hopes some gaps on the team will be filled prior to the Games in August.

Once Gay Games registration has ended (on May 31), San Francisco's Gay Games track and field team will be ordering competition uniforms (singlets and shorts) in conjunction with the marathon team. Uniform orders for those competing at the Games should be directed to Team San Francisco track and field co-chair Rick Thoman (at 626-8784) or TSF marathon co-chair Dave Studach (at 626-1380).

Track Site Confirmed

The track and field competition at Gay Games III is scheduled for August 5 through 10. The site of the Gay Games III track and field competition has been confirmed as Swan Garde stadium, located just outside Vancouver in the city of Burnaby.

There was concern that local soccer groups with claims to the field would pre-empt use of the stadium, but an agreement appears to have been reached allowing use during the

league's best winning streak in progress. Bridges was a latecomer to the White Swallow Hunters, which boasts the league's top game winner, Bernard Bayaca, whose 19-3 record installs him at No. 4 on the top shooters list. Their combined efforts have helped the Hunters savage their Division and kept them within three games of the Quackers' league-

(Continued on page 47)



Track and field team warms up at San Francisco State.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Games. The facility has an eight-lane, all-weather surface track and a covered grandstand.

The Vancouver Gay Games organizers have also stated that the 5,000 and 10,000 meter events will be held on the track, as in both previous Gay Games. There was speculation that the runs would be held in Stanley Park as a road race. Although the schedule of events won't be finalized until after registration is over, it is expected that the 5,000 and 10,000 meters will be held ear-

ly in the week. This will allow competitors who are also running in the marathon (on the final day of competition, Saturday, August 11) a chance to recover.

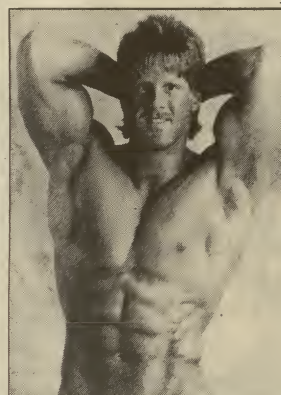
The San Francisco Track and Field Club is currently holding practice sessions on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. at San Francisco State University's track. Starting April 3, Tuesday and Thursday night workouts will be held at the same location beginning at 6 p.m. For more information phone 626-8784.

★ ★ ★

A reminder: Team San Francisco will hold a general membership meeting on Saturday, March 24, at 3:30 p.m., at the Eureka Valley Community Center.

The latest information regarding Gay Games III will be presented, including travel and housing data, news regarding TSF warm-ups for opening and closing ceremonies, and other general information.

For more information, call TSF at 824-8118. ▼



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Softball League Opens 13th Season

by Rick Ritt

The Gay Softball League opens its 13th season Sunday, March 25, with a trio of games. The site for the triple header is Lang Field, located at Gough and Turk Streets.

First to the plate in a battle of Recreational Division foes will be two of the G.S.L.'s most popular teams, Cassidy's Cabinettes and the Rainbow Toos. The umpire will call "Play Ball" at 9:30 a.m.

Next up is a Women's Division battle between one of the favorites for the division crown, The Galleon and a new team in the women's division, the Cafe Women.

After the conclusion of the women's division contest at approximately 12:30 p.m., opening ceremonies will take place. Included on the schedule, in addition to the ceremonial throwing of the first pitch, will be the presentation of a panel for the AIDS Quilt Project which will include names of the many G.S.L. members.

Doggie Fashion Show



Uncle Bert's Bombers and the Rendezvous, seen here in 1989 play, compete in the Open Division. (Photo: Barbara J. Maggiani)

The main event of the ceremony, however, will be patterned after last year's successful fashion show. The board of directors of the G.S.L. have decided to host another show but this one will be of the canine variety. Yes, a dog show, so get *Fido* all gussied up because prizes will be offered in many categories. For more specifics, call a league officer.

After the field is cleared (literally) at the end of the ceremonies, the featured game of the day will be played by two teams from the Open Division. This game will match two of the G.S.L.'s long-standing sponsors, the Pilsner Inn and the SF-Eagle. Both squads return with mostly the same players, although last year's third place team, Jerry Pepper's Penguins, have made two significant additions to their roster with Clay Maxwell and Ted Schirtzinger. An exciting close match is expected.

Traditional ball park fare of hamburgers, hot dogs, soft drinks and beer will be available at the park.

As part of the opening day weekend, the G.S.L. will host Becky's fourth annual progressive dinner. This consists of a five-course dinner including an after dinner drink at six different sponsor locations. The main course is Prime Rib with baked potato and vegetable; the cost for the event is a nominal \$10. Sign-up begins at Amelia's at 5 p.m.

Several G.S.L. teams are scheduling fundraisers. Here's how the schedule shapes up: The Rolo Team holds a bake sale in front of Rolo on Castro, Saturday, March 24 and 31, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.; Uncle Bert's Brats host their fifth annual Academy Awards Party and Pool. Ballots are \$5 and can be obtained from any team member; finally, Cassidy's Cabinettes is hosting their fourth annual barbecue fundraiser at Olive Oyl's at Pier 50, Saturday, April 7. Get tickets from any team member.

Now that the pre-season posturing is over, it's time to play ball! ▼

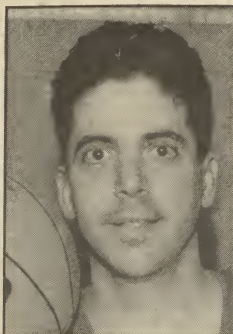
Pacers Disconnect MCI

by Joseph Nelson

The Pendulum Pacers slaughtered a good-natured MCI team 92-44 to bring their record to 6-3, three-quarters of the way through the Eureka Valley Adult Basketball League season.

The Pacers win was never in jeopardy as they raced to a 12-0 lead in the first five minutes of the game. Veterans Mike Gray and Roosevelt Winchester led the Pacers with 16 points apiece. Mark Johnson tallied a total of 15 and Steve Moore scored 13. Mike Gray had an incredible 14 rebounds, Mike White picked ten off the boards. Mark Johnson and Michael Mazgai had eight and seven rebounds respectively.

This mismatch left the Pacers in good playoff position. If they win their remaining three games, they are guaranteed a playoff spot. However, all of their forthcoming opponents are top-quality teams. Tonight, the Pacers will challenge the Longshoremen's Union team at 6:30 p.m. at the



Mike Mazgai

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

100 Collingwood site. The following Thursday, the second-place Brewmasters team will take on the Pacers, also at 6:30 p.m.

Several of the players have expressed their appreciation of their fan support, and they encourage people to continue to cheer them on. ▼



Three Skidazzle ski bunnies.

Truly Dazzled

by Mary Richards

Skidazzle took to the slopes and serious gamblers cruised the casinos of South Lake Tahoe during the Coits' annual Skidazzle trip in mid-March. The tour buses took 64 partygoers on a fun-filled weekend to crown the Tenth Annual Queen of South Shore and benefit the Godfather Service Fund.

Guests boarded luxury buses on Friday night at the Mint bar on Market Street and headed north to their destination at The Lakeside Inn, Stateline, Nevada.

Disco music blared as bus bartenders Ed Durity on the Queen Jerry Special and Dennis Hale on the Queen Pauline Special served cocktails to guests who were ready to gamble. Pull tabs and raffle tickets were sold for cash prizes, dinners and drinks at gay bars throughout the city.

Fifty percent of all money raised from the sales goes to benefit the Godfather Service Fund, which provides personal care packages to AIDS and ARC patients in San Francisco hospitals and health care facilities.

Saturday morning found some skiers headed for the slopes, although most decided to stay behind and try their luck at the tables. At 6 p.m. it was time to "put on your pumps" and get ready to crown the Queen of South Shore.

Faces, the local gay bar, offered hors d'oeuvres before the Saturday evening drag show and dancing. A charming mixture of English pub and Greek islands decor combine to make this one of the hot spots of the South Shore.

"Sleaze Counts" is the theme of this camp affair, which pits Pure Trash entries against No Class contestants in a battle royale for Queen. Tessie Tearoom, bartender at Faces, was declared Queen X of South Shore and Protectress of the Stateline. Tessie declared herself "real thankful for the honor," and went on serving drinks.

Emperor of San Francisco and Coits member Simeon Traw represented the real royalty on the trip. "It's a wonderful organization," he said, "we have lots of fun." The official investiture of the Emperor and Empress will take place on March 31 and after that, he added, "Marlena and I are looking forward to a wonderful year of reign for the friends of San Francisco."

This year the Coits celebrate their 27th anniversary as the oldest continuously active gay organization in the country. The evening of April 14 at the Mint they will hold their annual Easter Bonnets, Baskets and Plants auction and proceeds will go to the Godfather Service Fund in memory of bartender and former B.A.R. columnist Mark Fries. ▼

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Women Making Their Marks

by Will Snyder

The community bowling leagues at Japantown Bowl have been perceived as male-dominated. That is an accurate assessment of the past. And, it is still true this season.

But, as they used to say in the 1960s, the times they're a-changin'.

While it could not be said that women are breaking down the doors at JTown, attendance among women bowlers is definitely on the upswing. Currently, 33 women bowlers are competing in the seven Community Leagues. There has even been talk of an all-women's league forming in the future, depending on the response to such a league by

women in the community.

Another aspect of the numbers game is the quality of the bowling. Since one of the 33 female bowlers participates in two leagues (Carol Hull), there are 34 official women bowling at JTown. Among those 34 entries, 19 are returnees from past leagues with 13 of the 19 showing improvement in their averages from last season. Hull has shown the biggest jump in average, going from a 130 average in the previous Monday Community/Gay Games league to a 150 norm this time.

As for the best average among the women, look no further than the Wednesday Community League where

Nancy Thinnies is the brightest example of consistency among the women. Nancy carries a 166 average, which includes six 200-plus games and ten 500-plus series.

There's one other name from the Wednesday league that deserves a mention. Kathy Perkins is nicknamed "Honey" by the zany Bottom of the Bucket team, which won the first half championship. The Buckets must have been looking at the sweet way Honey throws a bowling ball when deciding to call her Honey because she has been quite a performer for the team.

Not only does Perkins carry a solid 152 average, which includes five 200-plus games and five 500-plus series, but she also has a stranglehold on individual achievements for the women thus far this season. She leads in scratch series (586), scratch game (228), handicap series (709) and handicap game (270). Now that's some bowling!

There's one other bowler who is starting to get other people to sit up and take notice. Blaine Whitlock has been a member of the Strike Force team in the Tuesday Community League for only



High roller Carol Hull
(Photo: Rick Gerhartner)

nine weeks, but already she is making her mark.

Blaine carries a 161 average. She has three 200-plus games and four 500-plus series.

Women have also shown leadership by being league officers. T.J. Woods is the current president of the Tuesday Community League while Nancy Muller was the president of the first Monday Community/Gay Games League.

So, while no one will dispute the fact that men easily outnumber women at Japantown, many people are beginning to see that JTown leagues belong to everyone.

★ ★ ★

The list of 200-plus games and 500-plus series will be drastically less than normal this week since Japantown was closed to the public from

March 4-10 for a national bowling tournament. So here are the scores for one week's worth of bowling:

Sunday Reno League, March 11: Vince DiColla (173 average) 223; Ron Smola (174) 269, 203, 664 series; Glenn Judd (174) 202.

Monday Community/Gay Games League, March 12: Tim Kneis (176) 210; Scott Miller (168) 212; Jami Josifek (137) 201; Phil Lewis (169) 207.

Tuesday Community League, March 13: Rick O'Brien (188) 230; Lance Brittain (130) 201; Bruce Gresham (178) 204; Hunter Bauman (179) 210; Richard Cooper (179) 219; Don Gambell (190) 213; Tim Mulvenon (188) 221; Randy Peterson (185) 212, 200.

Wednesday Community League, March 14: Gregg Lambdin (178) 237; Rudy Iranon (164) 220; Nancy Thinnies (165) 226; David Tangredi (196) 202, 220, 606 series; Jesse Vargas (161) 200; Doug Lucas (153) 202.

Thursday Community League, March 15: Dennis Hale (170) 213; Richard Harry (168) 203.

Friday Community League, March 16: Bob Bryan (187) 210.

And here's one we missed from the last column: Blaine Whitlock rolled a 204 game on February 27.

Sports Calendar

Team SF

Saturday, Mar. 24: General meeting regarding Gay Games III at 3:30 p.m. and sports reps & co-chairs meet at 3 p.m. at the Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood. May 31 is the last day to register for Gay Games III. Fee: \$54. Forms at Fleet Feet, 2308 Market and Hoy Sports, 632 Haight.

Arcadia Bodybuilding Society Workshop

Sunday, Mar. 25: Gold medal winner Jessie Bigford will instruct on diet and posing; moderator Phill Barber will give pointers on free weights and machines. All welcome. \$4 ABS members, \$6 general. 8 p.m. at Market Street Gym.

SF Trojans' Benefit Dance at Dreamland

Sunday, Mar. 25: \$6 at door, begins at 6 p.m., 715 Harrison & 3rd St., SF. Practices begin Mar. 3. Bernard, 824-7048.

SF Slammers

Women's basketball practice Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at The Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood. Susan, 824-4697.

Men's Basketball Organization

Thursday, Mar. 29: Pendulum Pacers vs. Brewmasters at 6:30 p.m. at the Eureka Valley Community Center. Practice on Sundays, 6-8 p.m., at same location. All levels welcome. Tony, 621-2710.

SF Women's Business Bowling League

Bowl Sundays, 6 p.m. at Park Bowl, 1855 Haight. Ann, 337-6721.

Golden Gate Wrestling Club

Tuesday and Friday practices, 7-9 p.m., at the Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels welcome. Gene, 821-2991.

SF Wrestling Club

Workouts: Mar. 24 and Apr. 7 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. All forms & styles of wrestling; all ages, weights welcome. Call 538-8490 or 821-9721.

Volleyball Club

Sundays, 1 p.m., at the Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels welcome. Mike, 626-4743.

Gay Volleyball

Every Sunday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., in the school yard at 18th St. & Deharo. All welcome, including beginners. Jay, 864-0257.

Gay Softball League

Sunday, Mar. 25: Opening Day Ceremonies, 9 a.m. at Lang Field, Gough & McArthur, SF. All skill levels welcome. Len, 864-3220.

Bay Area Racquetball Club

Sunday, Mar. 25: Softball Opening Day Bake Sale, 9 a.m.-Noon at Lang Field. Sundays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at Schoeber's Athletic Club, South SF. All skill levels welcome. Wref, 626-7758.

Gay Tennis Federation

For info call Michael, 431-1721.

Birds of a Feather Women's Badminton

Women's practice on Mondays, 7-9 p.m., at French American School gym, 200 Buchanan. Open badminton for men and women on Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m., at Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood. Pat, 626-4950.

SF Spike

Tuesdays at 8 p.m. at West Sunset Soccer Fields, 40th Ave. & Ortega, and Thursdays at 8 p.m. at Moscone Field, Chestnut & Laguna. Carlo, 821-4248.

Saga North Ski Club

For info call SAGA, 995-2772.

X-Ta-C Cross Country Ski Club

For info call Jim or Trudy, 995-2736.

Tsunami Gay/Lesbian Swim Team

Sundays, 10 a.m.-noon, at King Pool, 3rd St. & Carrol. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7:30-9 p.m., at Hamilton Pool, Geary & Steiner. Laurie, 255-9001, or Johnny, 626-0561.

SF Water Polo

Practices Thursday evenings, 6:30-8:30 p.m., and Saturday mornings, 9-10:30 a.m., at Coffman Pool, corner of Visitation and Hahn, SF. Men & women of all skill levels welcome. John, 621-07831.

SF FrontRunners

Sunday, Mar. 25: Tennessee Valley Run. Meet at 9 a.m. under the big Safeway sign (Market & Delores) to carpool to Marin Headlands. Tuesday Fun Runs: 6:30 p.m., Ferry Bldg, Embarcadero; no-host dinner follows. Thursday Fun Runs: 6:30 p.m., McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park; no-host dinner follows. Sunday Fun Runs: 10 a.m., location to be announced. Rod, 621-2213.

EastBay FrontRunners

Saturday, Mar. 24: Lake Merritt Run. Meet at the corner of 14th & Oak Sts. near the Cameron Stanford House. Roz, 939-3579, or Greg, 865-6792.

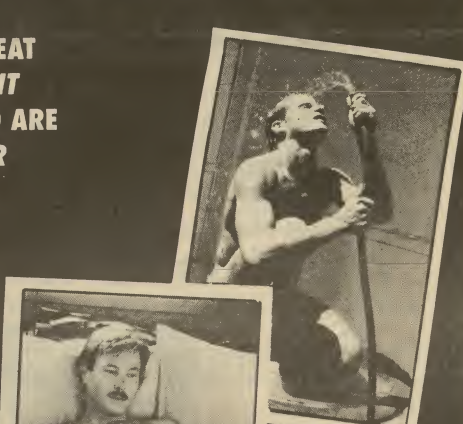
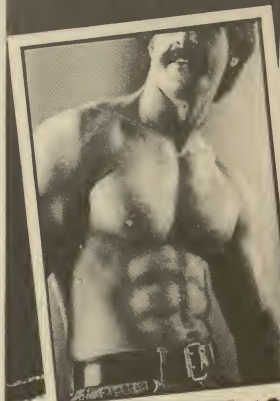
SF Track & Field

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. and Sundays, 10:30 a.m. at SF State University track, 1600 Holloway. All skill levels welcome. Rick, 626-8784.

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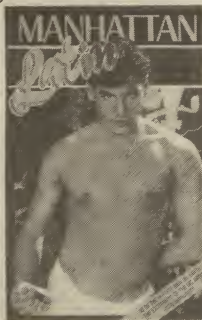
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• "A 19th Century Romance" and "Dancing the 20th Century": The lush romanticism and rapid social evolution of the last two centuries will be celebrated through music, dance and artwork. Mar. 24-25 and Mar. 31-Apr. 1. "19th Century" at 1:30 p.m.; "20th Century" at 3:30 p.m. \$10-18. Florence Gould Theatre, California Palace of the Legion of Honor, 34th Ave./Clement in Lincoln Park, SF. 750-7678.

FRIDAY 23

- I-Beam: The Weirdos, The Pandores. 10:30 p.m. \$6 adv. 1748 Haight. 668-6023.
- Screw: DJs Lewis & Mike, crucial music alternative dance, videos. Beer pitchers \$5. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$1. 496 Guerrero/14th St., SF.
- El Rio: DJ Cory Iwatsu (5-8 p.m. Happy Hour), DJ Carlos Grant (10 p.m.-2 a.m.). No cover. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- Heartshots, Theatre for the Dark Times: Lewis Jordan, an Afro-American Don Quixote, wanders the city led ever onward by his muse: The Music. Mar. 23-Apr. 7, plays Fri. & Sat. at 11 p.m. \$6.50. Eureka Theatre, 2730 16th St., SF. 558-9898.
- Waiting for Lefty: Clifford Odets' 1935 social protest drama of striking cab drivers presented by North Beach Repertory. Mar. 23-Apr. 29, plays Thu.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 7 p.m. \$10. Local Theatre 14, 247 Golden Gate/Hyde, SF. 285-1786.
- Stretching Reality: Mark I. Chester's photography exhibit of portraits of SF gay playwright Robert Chesley. Celebrate Chesley's 47th birthday and hear him read from his work. \$5. Exhibit hours: Mar. 24-25, 1-6 p.m., \$2. No one turned away for lack of funds: 50 percent of fees benefits the AEF. 1229 Folsom, SF. 621-6294.
- Sub Cinema's "European Allegories": The Balcony adapted from the play by Jean Genet, starring Shelly Winters, Peter Falk, Leonard Nemoy, Two Men and a Wardrobe by Roman Polanski. 9 p.m. \$4. Galerie Cine Cal, 576 Vallejo, SF. 296-1152.
- Equinox Ragtime Ball: 9 p.m.-Midnight with the Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band. Dance lessons, 8-9 p.m., with Stan Isaacs. Cakewalk Contest. \$7. Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley.
- Men's Gymnastics: UCGALA sponsors an outing to see Cal vs. Stanford and San Jose State. Harmon Gym, UC campus. 861-5708.
- Gay Men's Group Oil Massage: Touch & be touched. 7:30-10 p.m., arrive by 7:30 p.m. \$10. 552 Castro B, SF. Bruce, 626-2026.

SATURDAY 24

- I-Beam: High Energy & House Music, plus sexy, young studs take it off at 10:30 p.m. & 12 a.m. \$5, free w/pass. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. 1748 Haight, SF. 668-6023.
- Colossus: After hours House/Urban/Funk/Disco dance club. Doors at 9:30 p.m. \$8, 21+. 1015 Folsom/6th St., SF. 431-BOYS.
- El Rio: Paul Collins & The Beat, Goodbye Liverpool, The Basics. 10 p.m. \$5. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- Gay Asian Pacific Alliance's "Break Out '90" Dance Party: College theme—wear your school colors. Featuring GAPA pep squads & crowning of 1990's Coming Out Queen. 7:30 p.m.-Midnight. \$5-6. Ft. Mason Center, Bldg C, Rm. 300, SF. 387-0466.
- AIDS Emergency Fund's 4th Annual Kick Off Dinner: Cocktails at 6:45 p.m., dinner at 7:30 p.m., dancing at 9 p.m. \$60. Bimbo's Supper Club, 1025 Columbus Ave., SF. 821-6116.
- Living With AIDS: Joy Cobb's play about the lives of four black women who are living with AIDS. 7 p.m. Elmhurst United Methodist Church, 1659 83rd Ave., Oakland. 655-3435.

• Robert Frank—A Fire in the East: Short documentary about the photographer/filmmaker. Also, showing his latest film *Home Improvement and Pull My Daisy* (1959), about the Bohemian underground of Alan Ginsberg, Gregory Corso & Larry Rivers. 1 & 3 p.m. Exploratorium, 3601 Lyon, SF. 563-0348.

• A Different Light: Singer/songwriter Piaget will be signing copies of her latest album *Blood and Roses*. All proceeds from this sale benefits the AIDS Emergency Fund. 3:30-4:30 p.m. 489 Castro, SF.

• Frank Moore's Journey to Lila: This rare performance will dare to go through the uncharted waters of death, rebirth and childhood. 8 p.m. \$5. Walden School, McKinley & Dwight, Berkeley, Linda. 540-0907.

• Softball for Lesbian & Gay Youth: Saturdays, 2:30-4:30 p.m., at Big Rec. Field, Lincoln & 6th Ave., SF (weather permitting). Bring softball equipment if possible. 658-6912.

• Men of All Colors Greater Bay Area: Video night: *Cry Freedom*. 7-10 p.m. 3135 Courtland, Oakland. Lee, 261-7922.

• Copyrights Clinic: California Lawyers for the Arts holds drop-in, one-on-one 20 min. sessions for artists of all disciplines. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$10-20. Ft. Mason Center, Bldg C, Rm. 255, SF. 775-7200.

SUNDAY 25

- I-Beam: Sunday T-dance. Male dancers at 8, 9 & 10 p.m. 5 p.m.-2 a.m. \$4, \$3 w/pass. 1748 Haight. 668-6023.
- El Rio: The Blazing Redheads. 4-8 p.m. \$5. 3158 Mission, SF. 282-3325.
- GLOE/LYRIC First Annual Pancake Breakfast: 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. \$5/adult, \$3/child. MCC Social Hall, 150 Eureka, SF. Benefits the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center.
- Rock with the Jocks: Fundraising dance to send the SF Trojans flag football team to Gay Games III. 6 p.m.-3 a.m. \$5-6. Posing by Games III Physique contestants and Team ABS. Dreamland, 715 Harrison/3rd St., SF.
- Gay & Lesbian Night at The Edge: Modern rock, dancing, full bar. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. 18+ w/valid ID. 260 California Ave., Palo Alto. 324-EDGE.
- Bench and Bar: Variety show of singing, dancing female impersonators at 10 p.m. Preceded by Country Western dancing, free chili & hot dogs. 7-10 p.m. 120 11th St., Oakland. 444-2266.
- Galerie Cine Cal Poetry Reading: Featuring Fred Beck "The Rhyming King." Open mic to follow. 3-6 p.m. \$1. 576 Vallejo, SF. 296-1152.
- Healing Service: All are invited for healing, worship, prayer and music. Holy Communion and Laying-on-of-hands prayer offered. 7 p.m. MCC Church, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.
- Women's Social for Older Lesbians (60+): Join us for music, dancing, pool, table games and refreshments. 2-5 p.m. Bring food to share. Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero, SF. 626-7000.
- AIDS Interfaith of Marin Monthly Service: 4 p.m. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 1 Drake Ave., Marin City (btwn Sausalito & Mill Valley, off 101).
- Affirmation—Gay & Lesbian Mormons: Social and support group for Latter-day Saints, their families, friends. 7 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 641-4554.

MONDAY 26

- Poet John Wieners Tribute Reading: Leading Bay Area literary figures will read their favorites from Wieners' works; among them will be gay writers Steve Abbott, Kevin Killian, Robert Gluck and others. 7:30 p.m. \$5. Ft. Mason Center Conference Hall, Bldg A, Marina & Laguna Sts., SF. 776-6602.
- Bi Friendly SF: Bi night out, 7-10 p.m. Castro restaurant. Pierre, 753-0687.
- Duplicate Bridge Game: 7 p.m. open game at Quicktricks Bridge Club at MCC Church, 150 Eureka. 285-5155.



• Ma Rose: Cassandra Medley's play which chronicles the lives and trying times of three generations of black women. Thru Apr. 15, plays Wed.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 7:30 p.m. \$13-17. Eureka Theatre, 2730 16th St., SF. 558-9898.

WEEK

TUESDAY 27

• **Tom Ammiano in "Pouf Positive":** Robert Patrick's satirical monologue of a dying AIDS patient. Mar. 27, Apr. 2 & 3 at 8 p.m. \$10. Eureka Theatre, 2730 16th St., SF 558-9811.

• **Benefit for Local Rock Critic Sadie O.:** Featuring thrash-funksters Primus and rock 'n' rollers Lethal Gospel. Doors 9 p.m., show 10 p.m. \$5. DNA Lounge, 375 11th St., SF. 626-2532. Sadie O. was recently involved in a car accident.

• **Suds: The Rocking '60s Musical Soap Opera:** Set in a laundromat, a story of teen romance, lost love and secret dreams. Plays Tue.-Fri. at 8 p.m., Sat. at 7 & 10 p.m., Sun. at 3 & 7 p.m. \$22-24. Waterfront Theatre, Ghirardelli Square, SF. 861-6895.

• **Meet Post John Weiners:** The accomplished writer visits from Boston where he has been involved in publishing, education, political action committees and the gay liberation movement. 5:30-7 p.m. City Lights Booksellers & Publishers, 261 Columbus, SF. 362-8193.

• **A Celebration of Lives:** The community is invited to join together in acknowledging the lives of those who have died from AIDS. 7:30 p.m. MCC Church, 150 Eureka, SF. 476-6430.

• **Gay Men's Sketch:** Mistress S and Katy Crocodile model nude at GMS's first women's night. 2 min. gestures to 40 min. pose. \$12. 1229 Folsom, SF. Reservations, 621-6294.

• **Gay & Lesbian Modern Conversational Hebrew Class:** Tuesdays at 7 p.m., class runs indefinitely. \$5 per person, per class. Cong. Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers, SF. 861-6932 or 861-1362. Fee waived for those with life threatening illnesses.

• **Peninsula Business and Professional Association:** Gay & lesbian social group meets at Mercury Savings & Loan Assn. Community Room, 89 El Camino Real, Menlo Park (across from Stanford Park Hotel). 7-8 p.m. get acquainted, 8-9 p.m. program, 9-10 p.m. social hour.

• **Duplicate Bridge Game:** 7 p.m. Limited to newer players at Quicktricks Bridge Club at MCC Church, 150 Eureka. 285-5155.

HOT TIPS



THEATRE/PERFORMANCE

• **Classics:** Broads Off Broadway in three one-acts by Carol Flint. Imaginative, sexy, thought provoking, *Classics* interweaves mythical and modern elements to explore issues of women and entrapment. Mar. 24—Apr. 1 at 8 p.m. \$10. Centertspace, 2840 Mariposa, SF. 387-7209.

FILM

• **Films with Robert Mapplethorpe and Kenneth Anger:** Sandy Daley's film *Robert Having His Nipple Pierced* (1970), an intimate and explicit biographical session emphasized by Mapplethorpe's excruciating piercing. Also, three Kenneth Anger films—*Fireworks* (1947), *Scorpio Rising* (1963), *Kustom Kar Kommandos* (1965). Friday, Mar. 23 at 8 & 10 p.m. \$5-10. Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia, SF. 824-3890.

ART

• **Learning to Swim: An Illustrated Journey with Souvenirs:** Mixed media installation by Laurel Beckman about perceived and experienced lesbian sexuality. Thru Apr. 12. Southern Exposure Gallery, Project Artaud, 401 Alabama/17th St., SF. 863-2141. Hours: Wed.-Sun., 2-6 p.m.

FICTION/POETRY READINGS

• **John Wieners & Kevin Killian:** Wieners reading and conversation with Killian, both important gay literary figures. Sunday, Mar. 25 at 1 p.m. \$5. Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St., SF.

DANCE

• **Political Dance/Theatre:** The Expanding Secret Company in their latest work, *Utopia and Psychotherapy*, reproduce coming into manhood tales from a feminist perspective. Mar. 23-24 & 29-31 at 8:30 p.m. \$4, no one turned away. 1800 Square Feet, 719 Clementina/8th St., SF. 255-8510.



• **The Imaginary Invalid:** ACT's production of Moliere's comedy classic. Thru Apr. 14, plays Mon.-Sat. at 8 p.m., matinees Wed. & Sat. at 2 p.m. Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, Bay & Lyon, SF. 749-2228.

WEDNESDAY 28

• **Female Trouble:** Presents Stepchildren (aka Step-sisters), DJ Stephanie Phillips. \$3 cover. \$2.50 draft before 10 p.m. Wednesdays are for girls at Nightbreak, 1821 Haight, SF.

• **Mr. SF-Eagle Leather Contest Finals:** Don't miss the action! 9 p.m. SF-Eagle, 12th St./Harrison.

• **El Rio:** Comics Karen Ripley, Dan Morgan, Kevin Kataoka. \$5. 9 p.m. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.

• **Blues in the Night:** Celebrating great jazz and blues songs of the '20s and '30s while exploring the lives of three women and a saloon singer. Thru Apr. 7, plays Wed.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 2:30 p.m. \$18-20. Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, 620 Sutter/Mason, SF. 474-8800.

• **I'm On A Mission From Buddha:** Lane Nishikawa's new one man show is a panoramic view of Asian American life and where it is going in the '90s. Thru Apr. 1, plays Wed.-Fri. at 8:30 p.m., Sat. at 7:30 & 10 p.m., Sun. at 3:30 & 7:30 p.m. \$13-15. Asian American Theatre Center, 403 Arguello/Clement, 2nd floor, SF. 751-2600.

• **Gertrude Stein and a Companion:** By Win Wells, celebrates the love behind the legend of two women. Thru Apr. 15, plays Wed.-Sun. at 8 p.m., Sun. matinees at 3 p.m. \$8-15. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., SF. 861-5079.

• **A.g.a.p.e:** Performance by American opera singer John Duykers and Japanese movement artist Hitomi Ikuma. Thru Apr. 1, plays Wed.-Sun. at 8:30 p.m. \$8-12. Life On The Water, Bldg B, Ft. Mason, SF. 776-8999.

• **Snake Talk: Urgent Messages from the Mother:** Three characters emerge from one woman touching issues of death & aging, planetary survival, competition & jealousy, child abuse and the theft of women's power & sacred teachings. Thru Apr. 1, plays Wed.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 2 & 7 p.m. \$10-19. Pacific Jewish Theatre, 820 Heinz Ave., Berkeley. 861-4880.

• **Writer's Workshop for Senior Lesbians/Gay Men (50+):** 6-8 p.m. at 1853 Market, SF. 626-7000.

THURSDAY 29

• **El Rio:** Cocktail Party featuring comedian Ngaiio Bealum, female impersonator Teresita, exotic dancer David & DJ Carlos Grant. Free. 9-11 p.m. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.

• **Chaos:** Music-videos-lust! Industrial, New Beat, Rap—DJs Mike & Lewis. Thursdays, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. \$1. Crystal Pistol, 842 Valencia/19th St., SF.

• **Wet Jockey Shorts Contest at The Endup:** With Danny Williams & guests. \$25-100 in prizes. Stripper 9:30 p.m. sharp, contest 10:30 p.m. sharp. \$4. 6th & Harrison, SF.

• **Spook's Lament:** David Barth's powerful tragic-comedy explores the insidious activity of a crooked money lender. Thru Apr. 15, plays Thu.-Sun. at 8 p.m. \$10-12. Climate Theatre, 252 9th St., SF. 626-9196.

• **Miracles of the Flesh:** Hank Hyena's new collection of wickedly irreverent adventures and disasters of the human body. Thru Apr. 14, plays Thu.-Sat. at 10:30 p.m. \$8-10. Climate Theatre, 252 9th St., SF. 626-9196.

• **Old Wives' Tales Bookstore:** Celebrate the 10th anniversary of *The Lesbian Path*, the first anthology of autobiographical essays by lesbians. Open discussion about ways in which our lives have changed over the last decade. All welcome. 7:30 p.m. 1009 Valencia, SF. 821-4675. Wheelchair access.

• **Mixed Messages:** Eclectic artworks by Santa Cruz artists Kim Seidl, Melody Copp and Jeffrey Flanzbaum. Cafe Cameleon, 418 Front St., Santa Cruz. Opening reception tonight, 7-9 p.m. (408) 423-2109.

• **ETVC, TV/TS & Friends Social and Support Club:** Presents Fashion Nite. Wear your best look; photographers will be available. SF location. 8 p.m. 763-3959 or write: ETVC, Box 6486, SF 94101.



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Benefit Concert of 17th Century Music

The Masterchorale presents a benefit concert of 17th Century English music, including madrigals and a complete concert performance of Henry Purcell's opera *Dido and Aeneas*. The performance takes place Friday, March 30, 8:00 p.m. at the Laurel Heights Conference Center Auditorium, 3333 California St.

Proceeds from the concert benefit Kairos House, a resource center for caregivers of those infected with the HIV virus, and for Ayurveda

Health, a gentle health care program for everyone who wants to enjoy a better state of health, especially persons who are HIV positive or who are living with AIDS.

Conductor Gregg Tallman is past music director for the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and is presently artistic director of the Spiritual Arts Center of San Francisco.

Tickets are \$12 and \$20 and are available by calling the Spiritual Arts Center at 255-8460

Record Distributor Wins Award for KKSF Sampler

Donn Sanders, branch manager of California Record Distributors in Berkeley, received the N.A.R.M. (National Association of Record Merchandisers) 1990 Marketing Award for the branch's work on the *KKSF Sampler for AIDS Relief* at the national convention held at the Century Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles, March 10-13.

The sampler includes 14 of the most requested songs played on KKSF since they've been on the air. A portion of the proceeds from the cassette and compact disc is donated to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. Tower Records received an honorable mention for their support of the project.

People of Color

(Continued from page 38)

Hernandez described the differences he sees between gay culture in Mexico and gay culture in the United States. He said that gay writers in Mexico are not as ghettoized as they are in the U.S. because they don't have the structure of a gay community as they do here. There are no gay magazines in Mexico, so most gay writers write for the mainstream, and gays in Mexico are often too closeted to go into a bookstore and buy gay literature because of oppression and self-repression.

Despite this, Hernandez said that gay poetry and literature is booming in both Mexico and Brazil.

Gay/Lesbian Programs

Andre's Mother

Wednesday, Mar. 28, 9 p.m., KQED Ch. 9: "American Playhouse" presents a provocative drama by Terrence McNally about denial and acceptance following the death of a young man from AIDS, starring Richard Thomas and Sada Thompson.

Straight Talk

Monday, Mar. 26, 10 p.m., SF Viacom 26: Kevin Gladstone talks with Alan Ginsberg, the Larkin Street Youth Center, male prostitutes, Smutfest '90 and author David Stuart (*Who Killed Cock Robin?*).

Madeline's Variety Television

Thursday, 6 p.m., S.F. Viacom 25

Helping Hands

Monday, 7 p.m., S.F. Viacom 6
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 6

Messiah Theatre Productions

Wednesday, 2:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 25: Starring "De John De Messiah."

Healing Ourselves

Wednesday, (2nd, 4th) 10 p.m., S.F. Viacom 25

Community Action Network News

Monday, 7:30 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30
Wednesday, (1st, 3rd) 10 p.m., PCTV (Oakland, East Bay)
Thursday, (1st, 3rd) 6:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 6

Outlook

Wednesday, (1st & 3rd) 9 p.m., PCTV (Oakland, NE Bay)
Thursday, Weekly, 8:30 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30; (4th) 6:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 6
Friday, (2nd, 4th) 7:30 p.m., Los Altos, Cupertino Cable 30: The empress coronation; lesbian poet Judy Grahn; High Tech Gays from San Jose; resident wit Benet Marks.

Electric City

Sunday, 10 p.m., S.F. Viacom 35
Tuesday, 10 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30
Wednesday, 8 p.m., S.F. Viacom Cable 35
Friday, 7:30 p.m., KCAT South Bay Cable: Mike Lou on male incest survivors; Dennis Peron; the Mr. Drummer Contest; the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence basketball game; Jai Jai Noire.

This Way Out

Wednesday, 3:30 p.m., KALW 91.7 FM

Rubyfruit Terrace/Hibernia Beach

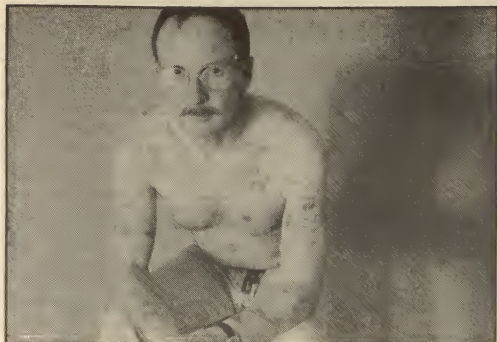
Sunday, 7:30 a.m., KITS 105.3 FM: "Rubyfruit Terrace," hosted by Laurie McBride, alternates weekly with "Hibernia Beach," hosted by Ken McPherson.

Fruit Punch

Wednesday, 10 p.m., KPFA 94.1 FM: News, interviews, reviews.

Healing Tales

Monday, 8:30 p.m., KALW 91.7 FM: Sacred and profane stories from the East by expert tale-spinner, guest Laura Simms.



Robert Chesley re K.S. lesions: "How many guys cut themselves off on the basis of their looks." (Photo: Mark Chester)

Chesley

(Continued from page 37)

street. A person's responsible for himself too. They might not want to deal with getting looks. It is an odd sensation."

More unique even than his openness about his illness is Chesley's decision to make public his private sexual obsessions.

"What I really enjoy looking at most for visual porn — and enjoy wearing myself — is men basically in ballet costumes with ballet tights. Real snug, real elastic. It's the line of the legs and the musculature, the ass, and I like that smooth basket with that nice thin material stretched across."

"Men aren't supposed to wear tights in our society, even with sports tights. It's amazing how they can fit perfectly well up to the crotch and then suddenly become loose as if these guys don't have cocks and balls."

Why does this specific image hold so much tension for Chesley?

"That's one of the things I've been trying to case out for years and years," Chesley said. "I started feeling very, very ashamed about my turn-ons, and Mark was instrumental in helping me accept them. Even among the queers I was a

queer queer, a deviant among deviants.

"I've thought very hard about not only where it came from, but how it works. It's fascinating. What is a sexual cue? You find that people can be very, very specific in their cues. There was an ad in the *Advocate* for guys who are turned on by toy balloons. The entire subject is so enormous and there are so many factors to it. I haven't been able to figure out an awful lot, but one thing I have figured out is that people have to be honest if we're going to learn anything about this."

"We've thrown the whole subject into the shadows for so many centuries. And this has caused a helluva lot of shame and guilt in people who... Ummm. I don't know how many people. Maybe most people."

"Stretching Reality" can be viewed on Saturdays and Sundays, 1-6 p.m., March 24-April 1 at Mark I. Chester's studio, 1229 Folsom St. A special opening reception will take place on Friday, March 23, from 7 p.m. until midnight. Chesley will do readings from his works throughout the evening. April 1 Kelly Hill will direct a specially staged reading of Chesley's new work, *Dog Plays*, three one-act plays with contemporary gay themes. ▼

Pool Association

(Continued from page 41)

leading pace.

This week the Hunters take on their Divisional rivals, Cinch Shooting Stars, in a match which should offer both teams their best test to date. The Stars have some over-achievers of their own in Glen Judd and Jim Regan and every one will be looking to end Bridges' winning streak.

Park Bowl Gets Even

The Park Bowl was recently victimized by the Hunters by a 15-1 margin. They didn't get mad... they got even, delivering a 15-1 thrashing last week to the hapless Castro Station Raiders. This they managed without their two strongest players, Ching Ng and Bob Boyle. Kudos to Mo Wheelock, Krista Smith, Robin Berkowitz and Bill Valentas on their speedy recovery.

With the season's second half comes tournament season, led off by the Captain's Tournament and the eight qualifier trail to the Annual 8-Ball Championship. Team play switches to weekly interdivisional action featuring teams of equal ranking facing off in a mechanism that helps keep everyone sharp and gives the

bulk of the league a chance to improve their standings and have a shot at the playoffs.

There were 256 games of 8-ball played in team matches last week and just one resulted in a table run (eight and out). Congratulations to Ann Senter. Lisa Duncan snapped in the only 8-ball break on her former home table at the Cafe San Marcos. Once again, she claimed it was her first in league play but we've heard that before.

Dial JOE-POOL for SFPA information. ▼

Suds

(Continued from page 33)

show just spiffy. But I'd rather cruise a real laundromat, where even the slimmest chance of something new happening keeps my hopes up. *Suds* was just too predictable. Haven't I seen this show before? ▼

Suds
Waterfront Theatre, Through
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Melodramas

(Continued from page 32)

The jury awarded the widow \$145,000 (Sifuentes had offered a settlement of \$50,000), and Sifuentes turned out to be a good guy because

he was so chummy with the opposition lawyer, who just happened to be a person with AIDS.

Happy ending, huh? In the interest of a "balanced script," L.A. Law gave America more AIDS misinformation, made especially dangerous because it was spouted by a "crusading

liberal" character.

And as we enter the second decade of this epidemic, a time when we indeed know how AIDS is transmitted, with *Andre's Mother* our public broadcasting system, instead of dealing directly with gay relationships, offers us tokenism and an invisible person with AIDS.

Hebrew Class For Gays

Learn to speak modern conversational Hebrew in an ongoing drop in class at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers in San Francisco. Every Tuesday, 7 p.m. Class is open to all

levels of Hebrew knowledge. \$5 per person, per class fee; people with life threatening illnesses may waive fee. Call 861-6932 or 861-1362 for information. ▼

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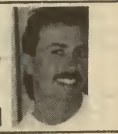
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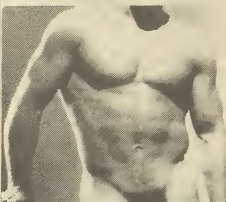
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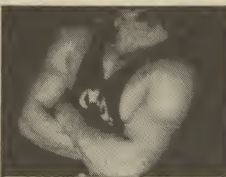
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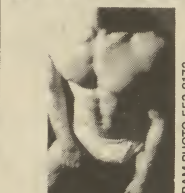
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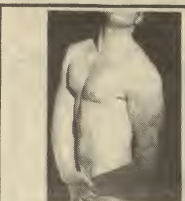
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24, 5'9", 150# swimmer/soccer player with solid legs, well-toned arms and pecs—HUNG 9 1/2"
★SCOTT★
IN/OUT
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Ram Photo 553-8172

RON 826-7314

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There is someone by the name of Vincent soliciting advertisers on these pages for ad work. He is NOT an employee of the Bay Area Reporter. If you have problems call Ann at 861-5019.

X-tra Cute Blond, 19 y.o., Daddy's Boy, in/out, \$100. Jared, 956-5767 lv msg. 24 hr. E12

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Yng hot blond, 25 yrs of experienced thunder. Try it for out only top, bottom older men welcomed love to see you. Justin 482-0504 — \$60 E12

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XXThick, XXHung, Sexy, Smooth, 26, clean-cut & versatile.
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6ft, 29yr, big strong guy wants attn: 664-7156, 24hr. E12

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2 handsome studs know what you need.
1 top • 1 versatile
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Jack & Brad
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5'10", blue eyes, 32, 165lbs, hung big, handsome, vers. Fun and friendly, discreet. Call Erik at 626-8449 E12

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Handsome sexy nice body
Let's have some fun
call J.C. 285-1469 E12

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Hung XX Thick
Dirk
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SCOTT • \$100
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HUNG BODYBUILDER
38, 5'10", 180, br/bl, 9" cut, caring and sensual top. E. Bay/SF \$100 in/\$120 out, Mark 451-6367, lv message. E12

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Tall smooth hard & hung blond Irish kid 20—6'1", 165, exhibitionist, friendly, clean, prefer older men. Sean \$80, 342-6203. E12

Hairy bearded well hung man for hire Steve 38, 6'2", 180, 431-5974, call anytime. E12

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Solid 210# stud has big thick 8 1/2". Need fr/attention. Andy 861-7931 E12

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Big Butt Tall Hairy Blue-Eyed Daddy. Chad 861-7014 E14

ITALIAN DADDY
Hung and Hairy
239-8419



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Hot Fun Hung
VERSATILE
24 hrs Jeff 995-2861 E13

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Generous gent seeks young model/masseur types for enema scenes. You are good-looking, well-built, straight-acting/appearing and really into the trip. \$\$ negotiable for right guy, photo appreciated. Jay, 750 La Playa, #653, SF CA 94121. E12

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27, smooth & muscular for striptease, massage or j/o, Shawn 255-4691 E12

23 yr old's Tight Body
Leather Boy, Let's Have Some Fun
995-4728 E12

Straight dude kicks back. Tough, muscular, 8 1/2 thick inches dig attention. real handsome, w/tattoos. Into men, women, cigars and video. Mike \$100 861-7379. E12

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25 y.o. punk likes his 7"
idol worshipped. Cocky,
verbal, dominant—
A rebel with a cause.

TONY 864-3133

PHOTO BY RAM 553-8172



HOT BLOODED ITALIAN
252-0775
(HIGH REPEAT)

Head my way! \$35 the best
ask for B.J. 864-5483 E12

Handsome Masculinity on a Plea-
sant 28 yr old. 6'1", 160lbs, long
bln hair & blue eyes 4 this sexpot.
Relax & enjoy Ed by calling
775-2069, \$50. E12

Professional Photographer
seeks models; fee chgd
969-3570 E12

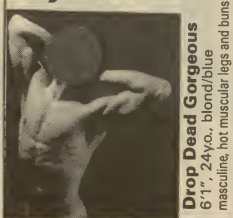
DADDY'S SLING

Safe, exp., kinky, ff, b/d, tt, toys,
gloves, husky, 5'9", 175, blond,
must. Andy 861-2668. \$70,
cleaning hose extra. E13

HOT MOUTH BROWN BOTTOM

Cute & Versatile out \$75
25yrs, 8in., Jeff 985-9132 E12

Ray • 648-0902



Drop Dead Gorgeous
6'1", 24yrs, blonde/blue
musculine, hot muscular legs and buns

Exotic Mulatto; Sexy; Hot-
looking, Light-skinned. call
775-4771, 24 hours. E18

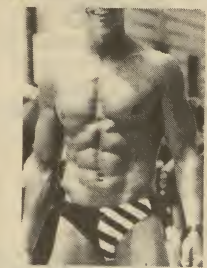
8 1/2 X-Thick Inches of Manhood
needs spit-shine. \$60
Hank 861-7379 E12

DOMINANT YOUNG LATINO



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with this Schoolboy Stud
Rick 921-RICK

Masculine • Handsome • Friendly



DAVID 929-7336

THIS BOY



Photo by Chelsea Williams 227-5137

VINNIE BOY
282-9860

BRAINS—LOOKS & PERSONALITY?

Yes, it can still be found in this
23 y.o., 6'1", 167lb, br/gr pro-
fessional. Definite quality you
shouldn't be w/o.
Matt 995-2602
PROTEGE

Sexy blond jock with washbrd abs
& incredible pecs, 26yrs, 5'9"
155#, 8" c, tanned, masculine &
very handsome, \$80in/\$100out
Brandon 864-0788 E12

Straight dude into videos and at-
tentn. Big thick 8 1/2" plunger,
hairy, muscular, hung and serious.
Mitch \$60 864-0230 E12

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Doug Flutie type
Built, Masculine, Safe.
Skip 821-7818 E13

Leather nylon male 863-3862 E12

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Heads your way for attention, ver-
bal and explosive, 30 yrs, very
hairy, 5'7", 140#, \$70 out, Marco
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Masculine, Muscular
Swimmer's Build

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Wait 3 bps. again. Hang up Pager 739-7527

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On Top • King Size, etc. etc.
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26yrs, 5'11", 172lbs, 10 1/2"

621-5721

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XXHUNG • BUTCH • BLOND
WOLF • 753-6539

MELT MATERIAL

6' 175# 42c 29w brn/blu
Handsome man with a
sexy bod and a hot rod
who's nice and fun...
\$100 863-7399

MUSCLE

★ **MASTER** ★
6', 260lbs, 21"a, 56"ch
JOHN 563-5176

SOCCER STUD

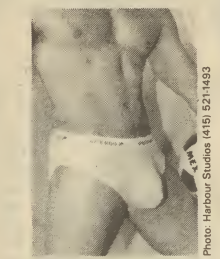


Photo: Harbour Studios (415) 521-1493

Very Muscular
Incredible Legs
Genuinely Handsome
(415) 431-STUD in/out

INCREDIBLY HANDSOME TOP SIX FT EIGHT

32, 220#, 8 thick inches
versatile, playful, raunchy
please no phone JO, \$100
863-3823 BRENT! E12

Cute, Young & Hung Top, Kurt
9"STUDMUFFIN
yummy & filling 541-5616 E12

9 1/2 Thick Cut, Loves
getting attn. goodlooking, masc.
& trim, 36yrs, 6', 155lbs, brn hair,
blue eyes, beard, \$60 in or out,
Tom 441-0509 E12

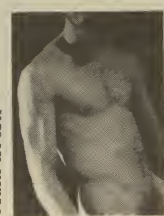
Model, escort, masseur, sexy, hot-
looking, hung and cute. call
775-4771, 24 hours. E13

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Ital. stallion, br/br, 5'8", fat tool,
stud looks, built.
Jonny \$75 864-6436 E12

A Dominant, Tall, Dark,
HANDS, S/M TOP
Creative, verbal, warm, wild,
sane. My slingroom is well
stocked with mirrors, boots,
restraints, leather & rubber
gloves. Tell me what you want.
Expect a great time!
Call back # required.

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1st hour \$100 in/ \$120 out



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Rugged, handsome hunk
has thick rock hard body
is totally masculine
always top Rick 621-3990 E12

Fist on good man 928-7572 E18

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Handsome, Hung, Tall, Big Balls,
24hrs, Axel 863-0252 E12

SMOOTH TANNED BLOND

Bodybldr, 26yrs, 5'9", 155#, 8"
cut, a real hunk! Boyd 550-6833 E12

DOMINANT SON FOR MEN 40 +

27, 5'9", #145, hung
big, into all fantasies
JIM 441-3131
Outcalls \$75



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★ \$30—Hot athlete. Hung nice. ★
★ Bill 441-1054 Massage, etc. ★ E15

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For most... hot, young jock; sexy,
smooth, v-shaped torso; hung
thick! Get ready for Keith
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Dad w/belt & nasty 8" 863-6536 E14

'A Condom or a Casket!' E12

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23, hairy, 80 in, 100 out
334-8245 Russell E12

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Worship my 8" tool. Ron
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TOP FUN

Good looking, friendly stud
Extra thick—Extra hung!!!
Anthony \$80.
864-6436

CUTE & YOUNG

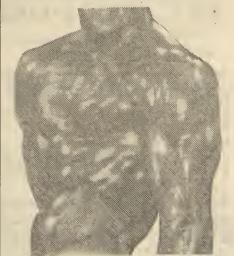
Sexy Dark Haired Model
Looks 20, availbl escort, hot times
\$100/out, 863-8747 E13

Hot Puerto Rican Bottom call
255-8782, safe, 24hrs. E13

If you're a Hot, Hunky Top, I'm
available! (707) 869-9461. E13

Bike Messenger Delivers. Big
parcel, shaved head, blk hightops.
Vic 621-1553 E13

BIGGER IS BEST



Competitive Titleholder B/B
26 yrs. old • 250 lbs.
V-shape • X-hung • X-hndsm
Dirk 495-6345
or bpr. 764-9244

VERY DARK VERY MUSCULAR VERY TOP

Black Man offers fun and
games to interested bottoms.

James \$100
534-0982

Rock hard muscular blond, 5'8",
170#, solid muscle, 46" c, 28" w,
17" a. X-Marine, rugged, hand-
some, tattooed & really hung.
\$80. Nick 861-7379 E12

252-0775

MEATMAN

HUMPY BUTT AND TOOL E12

Fun Man! Al 621-1456, \$30 E12

For The

BODY CONSCIOUS MAN

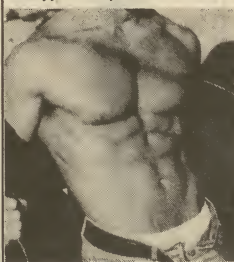
I'm the one for you!
6ft, 185#, 44" ch, 30" w, hung 8",
Jason 550-6833 E12

6'4", 195#, hairy, ex-Army Sgt.
Chuck 431-1579 E13

COMPETITION B.B.

5' 10", 225lbs, 52" ch,
31" w, 28" th., Hung
Bigger, Harder • Vince
\$100, In-Out **495-6345**

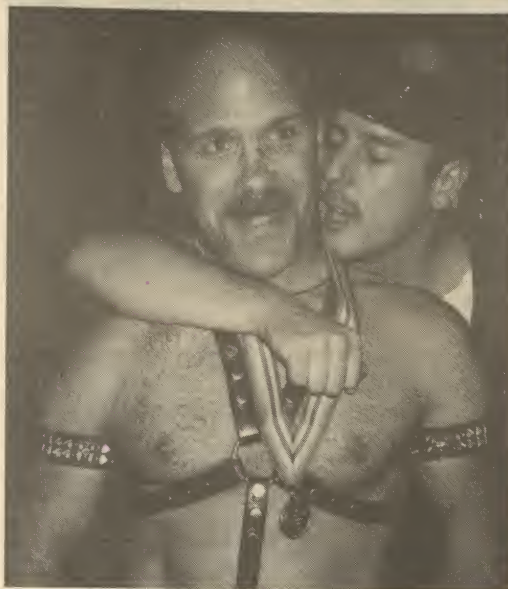
VIDEO STAR BRAD PHILLIPS



Ready for Action, call me!
864-0788
— Not an agency —

B.A.R. BAZAAR

Leather, Leather, Everywhere



Joe Hollinger, Mr. S.F. Drummer 1990, and "friend."

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

MR. MARCUS

Leather mavens this past weekend certainly got their share of contest action. From San Francisco to San Jose to Sacramento to Phoenix there were hot leather men vying for titles and right about now a handful of the competitors are beaming with gratitude and triumph and planning for the next 12 months. Some are headed for the next step of competition, some are content with their local positions (with a title). Added up, it means the leather community has a neophyte group of title holders and their respective communities expect their appearances at fundraising and other activities geared for enhancement and understanding of the leather lifestyle as it imbeds itself deeper in the mainstream.

Last Wednesday, March 14, the second heat in the search for Mr. SF-Eagle Leather

garnered a big crowd and another quartet of leather guys competing for a shot at that title. Judges Peter Austin, Jay Smith and David Thompson managed to wade through the labyrinth of questions pertaining to the leather lifestyle. In the end, Grant Dupont took the \$100 cash prize with Don Minnerly garnering the runner-up spot. Both will be in the finals of the Mr. SF-Eagle Leather contest next Wednesday, March 28, against the winners of last night's final preliminary. There will be a total of six semifinalists next Wednesday, so drop in and see who wins and will represent the Eagle at the Mr. SF Leather contest on May 12.

Saturday night, March 17, they were picking Mr. SF Drummer at the SF Eagle; the Leather Daddy and Daddy's Boy at the Heat in San Jose; they were also picking Mr. SF Cowboy that night here in

town and on Friday, March 16, they also picked the Leather Daddy and Daddy's Boy in Sacramento at the Wreck Room. I got the press release about the Sacramento event the same day, so it didn't get any advance publicity from this end! They did raise \$2000 there that night!

S.L.U.G. member Steve Lesh is the new South Bay Leather Daddy II, and Jacques is Daddy's Boy II. No need to wonder about what their year will be like; both have had their leather experiences and we're all expecting big things from them. Unfortunately at my deadline, no photographs of the winners were furnished, but I'm working on it (read: screaming!).

★ ★ ★

In the Valley of the Sun last Saturday night, IML '88 Iron Mike Pererya (now known to everyone as the Ambassador of Leather) shared the podium at the Bum Steer in Phoenix with Steve Shemmel as MCs for the regional finals of the Mr. Southwest Drummer title. There were six contestants competing before judges Dave Rhodes (*Leather Journal*), Lee Willis (Seattle), Jan Lyons (Ms. Nat'l. Leather Assn./Seattle), Jay Cunningham (Mr. Leather Arizona '85) and Rick Conder, Mr. SW Drummer '89 and myself.

San Franciscans will be surprised to learn that Ron Brewer, a long-time bartender (and creator of the Barbary Coast Cloggers) at the Pilsner Inn and the Lone Star Saloon, swooped in and captured the title and will compete for Mr. Drummer 1990-91 in September. In strict compliance with the scoring/judging criteria established by Desmodus, Inc., the contest was superbly executed. Ms. Sue Laybe, a member of the Arizona House of Representatives made an appearance and gave a short speech. She is probably the only Arizona legislator ever to publicly visit a gay bar in Arizona, let alone a leather bar! She was well received and gave an update on

(Continued on next page)



The contestants in the Mr. S.F. Drummer 1990 competition. Left to right: winner Joe Hollinger, first runner-up Kevin McCarthy and second runner-up Jack Smith "Animal." Brad Cavalier is M.C.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

CLUB 1808

A MAN'S PRIVATE J/O ARENA

New 1990 Schedule of Hours

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NOTE: 1808 is a private club for Jack-Off artists and includes the body-conscious man. Washboard stomachs, masculine looks, etc. No charge for clothes check system. Clothes check is mandatory.

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Photo/Pruzan

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☐ VHS ☐ Beta (add \$5 each)

Add \$3 per tape for S&H; CA res. add 6.5% tax. Sale price & certificate offer ends 4/9/90

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Signature _____



Mr. S.W. Drummer in Phoenix last Saturday night, left to right, Dino Rosie, Ron Brewer, and "Smitty."
(Photo: Marcus)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

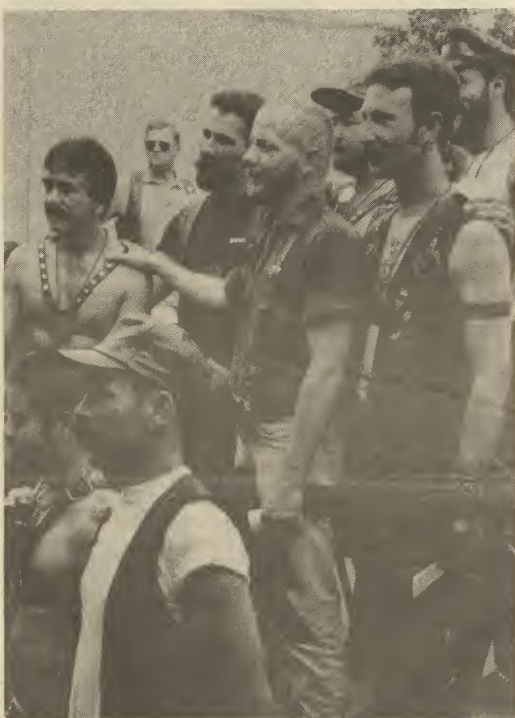
AIDS funding legislation for Arizona AIDS/ARC patients.

The first runner up was Dino Rosie (size 17 boots!) and the 2nd runner-up was Andrew "Smitty" Smith. The other contestants were Greggy Foster, Abraham Calleros and Tim McCullum. Mark Basch and was voted (by the contestants) as the SW Drummer Boy and will compete at the Mr. Drummer finals here in September

★ ★ ★

Here at the SF-Eagle, some \$3200 for the AIDS Emergency Fund was raised at the Mr. SF Drummer contest also on Saturday night. Would you believe in this town there were only three contestants?—Joe Hollinger, Kevin McCarthy and Jack "Animal" Smith. My unusually reliable source tells me Sharon McNight was so glad to be back in familiar territory, she absolutely sparkled throughout the evening. No need to tell you that Al Parker (always a favorite) did his usual "Wow 'Em" routine(s).

Virtually every SF bike club donated a cake for auction, one from the Lion & The Lady Court, one from Empress Marlena and Emperor Simeon; the Lesbian/Gay chorus donated one and Alan Selby's creation was very, very well received. Thank you Alan for your unstinting devotion and support. The Cal Eagles MC made sure everyone got their



The six contestants in the Southwest Mr. Drummer contest in Phoenix last Saturday with two Drummer Boys.
(Photo: Marcus)

share of beer too. Everyone I talked to said it was a very fun event.

Head Judge Al Parker was joined by Peter Austin, Rick Booth, Fred Rudiger and Jim Ward who were absolutely

taken by the contestants' fantasies; in the end, though, 27-year old Joe Hollinger took the winning medal, got a \$300 gift certificate from Mister S Co., and a certificate from Jim Ward's Gauntlet—he will com-



Mr. S.W. Drummer, center, Ron Brewer depicts the fantasy of being "dishonored" by a Confederate colonel in Phoenix, last Saturday night.
(Photo: Marcus)

pete for the Mr. Northern California Drummer title on April 27-28. Kevin McCarthy got a medal and a \$200 gift certificate also from Mister S; 2nd runner-up Jack "Animal" Smith also got a medal and a \$100 certificate from Mister S Co. And I dare not forget to thank Richard, Ms. McNight's accompanist who made that piano work not only for Sharon's warbling but for his work during Kevin's gas station fantasy. Thanks Richard and thanks to Doug Deal and Zach Long of Mister S Co. for underwriting this event—you guys give good Drummer!

One last word. As everyone knows, the fantasy presentation of the contestants is always the highlight of the competition at every level enroute to the finals. In Phoenix, Ron Brewer's fantasy dealt with a Confederate soldier being stripped of his rank and subsequent "deflowering" by the "Colonel." It was hot! Here in town, Joe Hollinger's fantasy dealt with a leather Dracula (!) complete with fangs, blood and all! It's a sure sign that the '90s generation of Drummer men will incorporate some fresh and never-seen-before imaginative sequences. After all, doesn't Drummer's slogan encourage "marching to a different beat...?" How sweet it is!

★ ★ ★

It's going to be a busy week-end around the campus. Are you ready for the onslaught?

Thursday, March 22: If more than one contestant and the judges show up, they'll be holding their third heat of the Mr. Bear Leather Contest at the Bear. Last week only one contestant showed up and no judges, so it was cancelled. Needless to say, Ms. Serena was not amused!

Friday, March 23: Do your own thing or stay home if you have to work Saturday. It will be bumpy the rest of the weekend. The cast of *Men Behind Bars* will party at the S.F. Eagle, see the video of their great show and distribute the proceeds to the beneficiaries. Almost all the cast members will be there except Michelle. The M.E.N. video will also premiere all weekend on video screens at the Eagle, Castro Station, Polk Gulch, The Special, The Phoenix, Uncle Bert's, the Galleon, Trax on Haight, the Giraffe on Polk and Big Mama's in Hayward. It's two hours long and is on sale now from M.E.N., 1 United Nations Plaza, SFCA 94102, or call (415) 621-0100 to order on your VISA or MasterCard.

Saturday, March 24: AIDS Emergency Fund 4th Annual Kickoff Dinner at Bimbo's. Tickets are only \$60 and introducing the 1990 honorary co-chairs Samantha Samuels and Jim Baroni. Call Don Johnson at 821-6116 if you want to be there for a great evening. Thanks to Gail Wilson and Sup. Richard Hongisto for last year's efforts. Dancing with City Swing after the official hoopla.

Mark I. Chester's portraits of Robert Chesley go on display starting Saturdays and Sundays starting March 24-April 1 at 1229 Folsom—only \$2 at the door.

Sunday, March 25: The SF Trojans, our hot football club presents "Rock With the Jocks" at Dreamland for only \$5 which includes music by DJ Jerry Bonham, the Arcadia

Body Building Society and all to benefit Gay Games III. Jeff Eaton wants you to know too that videos of the Trojans' games will be shown. Action begins at 1800 until 0300 the next morning (Monday!). Do all our jocks party that late? It'll cost you \$6 without a t-dance pass or an event flyer.

Also all day Sunday, QSM presents a Kinky Spring Festival from noon to 2200 at 890 Folsom. The 12-hour session includes art displays by Bishop, the Hun and Tom O Finland. Creative bondage by Amanda, Tony DeBlase, Cleo DuBois and others will also be demonstrated. Throw in piercing and tattooing booths, crafts booths, food. It's only \$15 at the door at this late date. For more info, call 428-1321. Wait until I tell you about their April events!!

Monday, March 26: Oscar night!! Besides the big Friends of Oscar Party downtown (the winning new name will be announced that night at \$100 a head), Ms. Tattiana's Oscar and the Godfather party is at the Mint beginning at 1800 for the Academy Awards. Prizes galore for those of you who participate and pick the winners in various categories...including dinners,

bar tabs, etc.—all for only \$3! You must, however, turn in your ballot *before* 1800 on Monday.

Tuesday, March 27: Tom Ammiano (the "agida" man) performs his *Pouf Positive* show at the Eureka Theatre tonight and again on April 2 and 3. Tickets are only \$12 but the show time was not mentioned on the invite I received, so call 558-9811 for more specifics.

Since this is Poison Prevention Week, I'm trying to be nice, but I couldn't resist dishing Mark Austin's 37th birthday party last Saturday night. With his flaming red hair and white and green decor, if you showed up without anything green you were forced to wear a tacky green and white paper vest! I know Bobby Brackett did not have anything to do with this minor detail. Left to Bobby, everyone would be in emeralds to fit the St. Patrick's Day theme! Invited guests later stated it was "just another...green party!" Thanks Glen.

If you're not, repeat not, going to Chicago for the Intl. Mr. Leather contest on Memorial Day weekend (heaven forbid!) and you're looking for an alternate "venue", you might want



Left to right: Don Minnerly, the runner-up and Grant Dupont, the winner of the second heat of the Mr. S.F. Eagle Leather contest last Wednesday. (Photo: Marcus)

to go to Las Vegas for the Golden Rainbow AIDS Benefit at Bally's on May 26 and 27.

This is their 2nd Annual Show (last year it raised a staggering \$55,000!) and it is billed as flawlessly fantastic. With a cast of 200 from every show in Las Vegas (I mean "big" name headliners), it is always a sellout for the two matinee performances. If you're interested write to Golden Rainbow, PO Box 81925, Las Vegas, NV 89180. Tickets range in price from \$15 to \$100 and it is always sold out.

The entire proceeds go to Golden Rainbow, an organization just like our AIDS Emergency Fund. No fancy offices, no high salaried queens stabbing each other in the back, no political intrigue—just plain helping our brothers who need it.

We are now in the Aries zone so expect to get pushed around by some of your favorite people! You know how those Aries are! Live, love, laugh, lunge, lurk and levitate—just do it in leather! ▼

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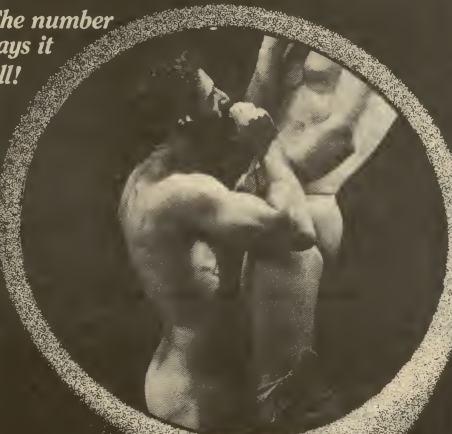
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VIDEO

Putting More Spice in the Bedroom

by Mark Johnson

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Released by: BFP Video/Black Forest Films
Produced by: Al Horatio
Directed by: Dwight Antoine
Cast: Gene LeMar, Damien Michaels, Steven A. Love, Ty Jones, Robert James, Burt Noardman, Opano More

BFP Video continues its excellent tradition of high-quality videos featuring black men with *The Good Old Days*. New model Damien Michaels is a welcome addition to the very attractive stable of handsome men BFP is famous for.

Gene LeMar and Damien are celebrating their 10th anniversary together and looking for ways to put more spice in their bedroom. They take turns telling each other about their sexual experiences before they met and soon have each other turned on. Both models are surprisingly believable and the dialogue is well written as they explore ways to keep the music playing.

Damien tells a story of two friends played by Steven A. Love and Burt Noardman that turns into the hottest scene in the film. You'll be amazed at how much Mr. Love can fit into such a small space.

Gene LeMar and Opano More sizzle in their scene. Warning: You'll want to adjust the volume on your set before Mr. More's incredibly verbal and lengthy cum shot. Gene could do nothing but stare in amazement.

The Good Old Days is one of the top ten all-black male porn films.

SECRET ACTION MAN

Released by: Cinderella
Produced and directed by: Gino Colbert
Directed and written by: Edward Lee
Cast: Lee Jennings, Sean Fox, Gene LeMar, Roberto Arias, Gino Colbert, David Ashfield, Alex Carrington

Lee Jennings looks good enough to eat, among other things, in this reasonably satisfying effort by Gino Colbert. Lee and Gene LeMar are government agents called in to solve the murder of Jeff (Gino Colbert) who had been involved with one of their brother agents.

Sean Fox plays another friend of Jeff's who needs con-

soling from Lee when he hears of his friend's murder. I'd be very surprised if it was really. Sean's body Lee gets into. There are no shots in this sequence that confirm the two are really connected.

Lee and Gene are in need of the special services of Agent X, Roberto Arias, to try and get the truth about the murder from Alex Carrington who keeps insisting he knows nothing. Roberto and Alex make a great combination. Even though Alex is grilled unmercifully by Roberto, he still can't shed any more light on the mystery, but a secret agent must follow up every lead.

David Ashfield as Skip holds the key to the murderer's identity. He and Sean Fox are well paired as Sean tries to find out how much he knows.

I wouldn't spoil what plot there is here. Suffice it to say this is no Sherlock Holmes. The bad guys get caught and Lee and Gene LeMar wind up in bed together for the beginning of a top, and bottom, secret

agent relationship.

Gino Colbert and Edward Lee get high marks for their camera technique and effort at telling a story between sex scenes.

BUSTER: THE BEST YEARS

Released by: Jocks/TCS Studio
Produced by: Warren Stevens
Directed by: Mark Reynolds
Cast: Buster, Bill Baker, Tony Soares, Rydar Hanson, Jim Benson, Lee Roberts, Cal Whittier, Joe Craig, David Calvin

While browsing around your video store you might want to check out or revisit one of the earlier Jock's releases featuring one of the best blondes on tape, Buster. This is a well-made and visually appealing video making full use of this very handsome model.

You'll also enjoy Jim Bentley and Rydar Hanson in a hot three-way with Buster and a terrific scene in Buster's red sports car. This film is well worth a second look, or will be a great discovery for those who missed it the first time around.

PAWS Campaign For Bike-A-Thon

Pets are Wonderful Support (PAWS) is beginning a special campaign, Peddle for PAWS, in support of the upcoming Fifth Annual AIDS Bike-A-Thon.

"With the growing concern regarding the health of volunteerism in the San Francisco AIDS battle, we believe it is imperative that every participating charity do their utmost to promote the AIDS Bike-A-Thon Program," says George McCauslan, PAWS president.

PAWS, through its Peddle for PAWS program, is recruiting new riders and new sponsors to the Bike-A-Thon event with a special press relations effort and rider recruitment

booths at key biking locations throughout the Bay Area.

This is the third year that PAWS has been a recipient of funds from the annual Bike-A-Thon program.

PAWS is dedicated to helping people with AIDS and ARC keep their pets as long as possible. PAWS provides a number of services including pet food home delivery, pet walking services and education on maintaining the health of both the pet and the pet owner. For information about Peddle for PAWS or to help as a rider or a sponsor, phone 824-5253.



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Santa Rosa, clean, quiet, no smoke, drugs, pets. Working GM, \$250 + dep. + util. 526-6542. E12

Castro Area, 2br, 1ba flat to share, GM, 35, non-smoker only, \$437.50, 1st/last/ \$250 dep., yard, close to trans, 252-0857, 10am-10pm. E12

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GWM 45 to shr 2br w/d, fp, deck, nr Dolores, quiet, no pets or drugs, 255-2865, \$450 E12

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2bd/2ba Castro, \$475, 1st/last/ \$200 dep. 864-1909. E12

Roomies* SF, Peninsula, Oakland, Contra Costa Cty, Male/Female (415) 533-9949 E15

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AIDS = toxic liver 864-8597 E14

San Mateo GWM wntd 2 share furn. large 1 bdrm apt. must like cats, smoker OK, \$375 mnth + utils. Steve 341-7319. E12

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